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IOWA CHAPTER SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Submitted by:
Adam Smith, PWLF
APWA Iowa Chapter President

I hope everyone's Summer is going well. After a very long winter and a very wet Spring, we have entered my favorite weather pattern—drought. Speaking for all who are involved in flood fighting operations, I will happily trade my brown and crispy lawn for the repeated downpours we faced earlier this Spring. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Iowa Chapter and the Executive Board for the opportunity to serve as Chapter President.

The Spring Conference was another great event. Special thanks are due to Peggy Englehart from the City of West Des Moines for all the behind the scenes work that she puts into this event every year. Thank you also to all the Chapter members who helped plan the event, who lined up speakers and made the conference run smoothly. The Spring Conference continues to grow and improve every year.

Planning for the Fall Conference is well under way and you should see information regarding registration in the next week or so. The Fall Conference will be October 10th and 11th at the Embassy Suites in Des Moines. Golf will be on Wednesday, October 9th at A.H. Blank Golf Course with a Welcome Reception following at the Iowa Tap Room. The Embassy Suites location will allow room for 25 Exhibitor booths in addition to the general session. I have some great presentations lined up that will highlight the impressive work that is going on in the City of Des Moines and the metro area. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fall Conference.

Special thanks are due to Steve Johnson for taking over the Chapter Newsletter. Please continue to send Steve articles about projects or events that he can use in future newsletters. Public Works employees do great things, build amazing projects, find creative ways to solve maintenance issues and keep aging infrastructure functioning seamlessly. However, we are not always the best at promoting what we do or celebrating our successes. It takes help from all of you to make the newsletter a possibility, so please take a couple minutes to write an article about a project or success and send it Steve for inclusion in a future newsletter.

Steve has made patriotism and veterans a focus for this edition of the newsletter. All Public Works employees are hero's in my book, doing essential jobs with very little fanfare and not asking for any recognition for their effort, but those of you who are veterans deserve a special THANKS. It is the dedication and service of the veterans and current service members who have made it possible to enjoy the freedoms and opportunities that we all treasure. Thank you for your service and all that you have done to make this country great. A special shout out to Mike Nothdorf, a City of Des Moines Public Works employee who is currently deployed as part of the Naval Reserve, serving a year in Africa

Adam Smith
APWA Iowa Chapter President
arsmith@dmgov.org



IA Chapter President— Adam Smith,
City of Des Moines

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THANKS.

Veteran's Memorial Parkway

Folded Flags is the first component installed as part of Veterans Parkway enhancements, which will be the first project of its kind in the Des Moines metro area, enhancing an entire roadway that will be 11.5 miles long with the addition of public art. Veterans Parkway will be the major spine of a roadway system that will serve an entire area of West Des Moines.

Public meetings were held in 2017 where citizen input was gathered that helped shape enhancement designs. These meetings were attended by neighbors living adjacent to Veterans Parkway, City employees, and local veterans groups. From these meetings, Folded Flags was identified as the inaugural piece of the entire project.

Folded Flags with its 15 individual standing, folded flags visually attracts the attention of commuters and trail users during night and day. The City of West Des Moines' Public Arts Advisory Commission approved the sculpture in the fall of 2017, and City Council approval followed in the spring of 2018. Folded Flags was officially dedicated at a public event on the evening of June 14, 2019.



Funding for Folded Flags was provided by the City of West Des Moines Capital Improvement Program. Partial funding was also provided by a 2018 BRAVO Greater Des Moines Project Grant.

Please view additional enhancements to be made in honor of our veterans:

[Veterans Parkway Enhancements, West Des Moines IA](#)

Fishing is Rehabilitation to Paralyzed Veteran's

When the City of Iowa City's Water Superintendent Kevin Slutts spent a week in the woods of northern Minnesota this June, it wasn't just so he could go fishing: he and other volunteers were helping disabled veterans enjoy a fishing trip of their own.

From June 23 to 29, Kevin volunteered his time and resources with the Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin Chapters of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) to help put on a week-long fishing trip for disabled veterans in Ely, Minnesota.

The PVA is a congressionally chartered veterans' service organization that provides health care, research, education, and benefits for US veterans who have any spinal cord injury

For his time and resources helping veterans from the three Midwestern states, Kevin was recently awarded a certificate of recognition from the PVA for his help that proved "instrumental to the success of this life-enhancing rehabilitation event."

"It was a privilege and a real eye opener," Kevin said. "You're going to take the word 'can't' out of your dictionary after seeing these people work so hard to do something like fishing."

His team, called All Hands On Deck, helped escort some of the 30 paralyzed veterans through fishing, boating, and other social and outdoor activities at the Veterans On the Lake Resort, a nonprofit organization and space specifically created for disabled veterans to enjoy outdoor activities.

For Kevin, the highlights of the trip were getting to spend time with those who served, and the veterans throwing a large fish onto the lakeshore so a nearby bald eagle could eat.

This year was the first time the PVA put on the event, and a second year is already set for August of 2020, thanks in large part to volunteers and donations to the PVA Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin chapters.

The PVA runs on donations and volunteers, so if you're interested in helping, visit io-wapva.org and click the Donate button on the right-hand side of the webpage. Please indicate you want your donation to go to the PVA Midwest Fishing Event. You can also visit pva.org for more information on the national organization.

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin at 319-356-5162 or at kevin-slutts@iowa-city.org.

"It was a privilege and a real eye opener," Kevin said. "You're going to take the word 'can't' out of your dictionary after seeing these people work so hard to do something like fishing."

Save the Date! Iowa Chapter Fall Conference



AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

APWA

Oct 10-11, 2019 Embassy Suites
101 E Locust St, Des Moines IA

**IOWA CHAPTER
2019 FALL CONFERENCE**

Des Moines, IA - Mark your calendars and reserve your rooms! The annual Iowa Chapter Fall Conference is arriving.

October 10-11 2019 at the Embassy Suites Des Moines.

When: 10/10/2019 8:00 AM - 10/11/2019 12:00 PM

Where : Embassy Suites Des Moines, 101 E Locust St, Des Moines , IA , 50309

Contact Person : Peggy Englehart, City of West Des Moines | Email : peggy.englehart@wdm.iowa.gov | Phone : (515) 222-3545

Membership Achievement Award's Announced

Six Chapters win \$500

The **Arkansas, California Central Coast, Quebec, Utah, Iowa** and **North Carolina** Chapters are all winners in the annual Chapter Membership Achievement Award contest.

The six chapters had the highest percentage of increase in membership in their respective divisions. The annual contest begins with the start of the fiscal year on July 1 and ends on June 30. The winning chapters will all receive recognition in the *In the Works* e-newsletter, in the APWA [Reporter](#) and during the Awards Ceremony at [PWX](#), along with a chapter banner patch and a \$500 check to be used for providing educational content for their chapter members.

The Chapter Membership Achievement Award was established in 2005 to encourage membership growth by honoring chapters showing the largest net increase in membership, compared to other chapters in their division.

Divisions (based upon chapter's number of members as of June 30 of previous year):

- 100 members or less
- 101-200 members
- 201-300 members
- 301-500 members
- 501-850 members
- More than 850 members

Every chapter in good standing is eligible for consideration. **The chapter must have submitted their annual budget and financial reports to APWA no later than August 1 of the previous year in which the award is presented.**

Selection is based on standing on the "[Statistics Report - By Chapter Size Category](#)" online membership report for the end of June. The chapters were put into the categories based on the membership total of July 1, 2018. The latest standings are based on the membership totals as of June 30, 2019.

The **Quebec Chapter** was by far the top overall finisher as far as an increase in membership for the fiscal year was concerned. Quebec went from 216 members to 323 in FY '19, an increase of 49.54%.

There were 30 chapters in all that had a net increase in membership for the fiscal year.

Arkansas held on to finish first in the division for chapters with **less than 100 members**. Arkansas ended up exactly where it started the fiscal year. Arkansas ended with 76 members and the other five chapters had a net decline.

California Central Coast recognized a net increase of 12.08%, going from 149 to 167 members, to finish first in the division for chapters with **101-200 members**. Louisiana and Mississippi finished 2-3 respectively. (Continued on Page 5)

Upcoming PWX in Seattle, Washington

About PWX

PWX draws thousands of public works professionals from all over the world. If you're like many, you have limited resources for professional development, so you've chosen APWA's PWX 2019 in Seattle as your preferred venue for:

Outstanding education sessions that address current public works issues—as well as ongoing challenges. Choose from more than 125 technical and professional development sessions that will be presented by your colleagues—who will impart their vital knowledge and experience to you. APWA's education sessions are based on the very latest learning models—classroom, interactive and "live" learning labs.

The chance to see an extensive gathering of exhibitors and The Expo Experience that will showcase the latest products, services and technologies specific to public works. Special "non-compete" hours allow you to visit the floor—uninterrupted.

Opportunities to network with your peers, hone your leadership abilities and learn new job skills. APWA offers PWX attendees

MANY opportunities to meet and mingle with your peers—the Get Acquainted Party, Awards Ceremony and more! Build lasting professional relationships and make a few lifelong friends at the same time.

APWA Connect LIVE on the Exhibit Floor

At APWA's booth on the exhibit floor, our goal is to provide attendees with an environment where each of you can meet public works experts, network with your peers and stay up-to-date with the latest happenings in public works. We've added so much, you might have a hard time leaving! Don't worry, we'll also have knowledgeable APWA Staff available to answer your show questions and provide you with information on APWA products and programs.

Who Should Attend?

Public Works Directors
 Superintendents and Managers
 Directors and Managers of Operations and Operations Personnel
 City and County Engineers
 Consulting Engineers
 Construction Directors and Managers

Solid Waste Managers and Coordinators
 Public Fleet Directors and Managers
 Public Facilities and Grounds Directors and Managers
 Water Services Directors and Managers
 Streets/Roads/Bridges Directors and Managers
 Transportation Directors and Managers
 Stormwater and Flood Control Directors and Managers
 Emergency Management Directors and Coordinators
 City Planners
 Sustainability Specialists
 Anyone else whose responsibilities are public works-related

Why Should You Attend

Convince your boss, download the justification letter. [Justification Letter](#)

Areas Covered

Career & Personal Development
 Construction Management
 Emergency Management
 Engineering & Technology
 Environment/Sustainability
 Facilities
 Fleet Services
 Management
 Parks & Grounds
 Snow & Ice
 Solid Waste
 Stormwater/Flood Control
 Streets/Roads/Bridges
 Traffic Engineering
 Utilities/Right-of-Way
 Water & Wastewater



Continued from page 4... In the division for chapters with **201-300 members**, Quebec was way ahead with its 49.54% increase, but Oklahoma also had a great year, finishing with a 15.63% increase, the second largest net increase of any chapter. New York (9.76%) and Rocky Mountain (9.06%) also had impressive gains for the FY.

The Utah Chapter also saw a double digit increase in membership for the fiscal year. Utah was up 51 members in FY '19, starting with 490 members and ending with 541 for a 10.41% gain and finished first in the division for chapters with **301-500 members**. The South Carolina Chapter was second with a net gain of 5.77%.

In the division for chapters with **501-850 members**, Iowa finished with a 5.83% increase, increasing the number of members from 532 to 563. The Ohio Chapter had a gain of 3.51% and finished second.

The North Carolina Chapter also had a double digit increase in membership, going from 1,090 members to 1,244 to finish first in the division for APWA's largest chapters - **more than 850 members**. North Carolina's 14.13% was the third largest increase of all 63 chapters, and was well ahead of the Florida Chapter, which was second in this category.

If you have any questions about membership or the Chapter Membership Achievement Award, please contact Brad Patterson at bpatterson@apwa.net or (816) 595-5263. The standings are updated throughout the year.



— SNOW PLOW OPERATOR TRAINING — SPOT & ROADEO

2019

OCTOBER 1-3, 2019 • CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



Join us in Cedar Rapids, Iowa this October for the 2019 SPOT and Iowa State Roadeo

SPOT: Tuesday and Wednesday, October 1-2

- Snow Plow Operator Training
- Two-Day Training Program
- Training tracks for both new operators and experienced trainers

Roadeo: Thursday, October 3

Obstacle course and defect testing for:

- Mini Excavator
- Skid Steer
- Single Axle Truck

Who should attend:

Operators of ALL skill levels

Vendor Showcase

Equipment & products will be on display during the Roadeo, October 3. Want to be a vendor or a sponsor of the event? Email Adam Pasker at apasker@urbandale.org.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Register: https://events.bizzabo.com/2019_SPOT_and_Roadeo



LOCATION

Kirkwood Continuing Education Center

101 50th Ave SW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
52404



Better Mouse Trap

Show off the innovative solutions that make your department more efficient. Reserve your booth today to show off your "Better Mouse Trap," and don't forget to vote for your favorite innovation!

QUESTIONS?

Cedar Rapids Public Works

Jourdan Jiruska
319-286-5851
jjiruska@cedar-rapids.org

Cedar Rapids Public Works Department

500 15th Avenue SW | 319.286.5802
www.CityofCR.com



GOLF DETAILS

This **4-Person Best Shot - Shotgun Start** fun golf event will start at **11:00 AM on Wednesday, October 9th** at:



A. H. Blank Golf Course
808 County Line Road
Des Moines, IA 50320

Items to note / remember:

- **Register** before the deadline of **September 20th!** After that time the pairings will be posted to this website.
- **Check in** at the registration table when you arrive.
- **Drink** tickets (2) will be distributed at registration. They may be redeemed at the clubhouse or on the beverage cart which will be operating during the event.
- **Lunch** is included in your registration.
- **Mulligans** are available if you donate 3 canned food items, per mulligan. A maximum of two (2) mulligans can be received, per golfer.



Flight winners and hole prize winners will be awarded at the Welcome Reception to be held at the Iowa Tap Room. The reception starts at 4:00 p.m.

We look forward to welcoming you to Des Moines on Wednesday, October 9th!