



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA
WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SOCIAL HALF-HOUR FROM 5:30 PM TO 6:00 PM FOR FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING ON 4/13. THE MEETING WILL START AT 6:00 PM.

UPCOMING EWB MEETINGS

- April 13th, 2010 (see separate flier for info)

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

This is a busy time of the year for EWB, both at our WPP chapter and at the various student chapters. In February and March two bridges in Joyabaj, Guatemala were successfully completed: one at El Aguacate by volunteers from WPP and one at Tres Cruces by the MSOE student chapter. More details on these projects are included in this newsletter.

Student chapters are electing officers for the coming academic year, and getting final project reviews and approvals for project trips this spring and summer. We will forward requests for additional mentors or other assistance from the chapters for your consideration.

Briggs and Stratton Corporation has invited us to be one of 10 to 12 volunteer organizations to participate in their 2nd annual Sustainability Fair in mid-May. This would be a great outreach opportunity for us, and we encourage you to read the information about this event and volunteer to participate.

Finally, this will likely be our last newsletter, and the April 13 meeting the final meeting for this spring. This summer the WPP board will again be considering how to best serve the members during the 2010-2011 academic year in terms of newsletter and meeting schedules, venues, topics, etc. We will be asking for your help as the new academic year approaches and we ask that you please consider volunteering to assist us. Enjoy your summer, and be safe in whatever activities you do.

Max Schmiede, President, EWB-WPP

CALL FOR A VOLUNTEER - UNIVERSITY LIAISON

The UW Platteville EWB chapter is in search of a new liaison to the WPP Chapter. As you consider this request there are a few key ideas that are important to keep in mind.

- 1) The purpose of the liaison is to be the connection between the professional chapter (EWB-WPP) and the student chapter. Communication, ideas, concerns, etc. will mainly be funneled through you. Your responsibilities are to keep EWB-WPP abreast of what the student chapter is doing, and the student chapter up to date on what we are doing.
- 2) The original liaison is still in the area, and still involved in EWB, so we are expecting a smooth transition from one liaison to the next.
- 3) Most liaisons have met with their student chapters but do the majority of their communicating over e-mails and phone calls. So, while being close to Platteville is advantageous, it is not required to fulfill the role of the liaison.
- 4) We are trying to get the new liaison in place by the beginning of May so that this person can become familiar with the chapter and chapter officers before summer vacation.



To volunteer as the UW Platteville liaison,
or for more information, contact:

Angela Reifenberg
areifenberg@att.net



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Engineers Without Borders
Wisconsin Professional Partners Chapter

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EWB-Wisconsin Professional Partners Briggs & Stratton Sustainability Fair

Briggs & Stratton will be hosting their 2nd Annual Sustainability Fair from 9 am to 2 pm on Thursday, May 6th at their corporate office in Wauwatosa. They have invited our EWB-WPP chapter to participate as one of 10 different organizations. Their theme this year is **Giving Back, which emphasizes community service**. We are being asked to host a booth to educate their employees about EWB and on the various opportunities available to them for donating time and/or money. They selected us because of our emphasis on sustainability with our projects. There is no cost to us to set up a booth. Last year 150 to 200 B&S employees attended the Sustainability Fair.

This is a good opportunity for us to make contact with more people who may be interested in serving as mentors, or in general getting involved in WPP. We need to let them know by April 15 if we will participate. So, we encourage anyone interested to let either Max Schmiege or Brian Wilson know if you would like to take this on. Contact information is at the end of the newsletter. Your role would be the primary contact with Briggs & Stratton, putting together exhibits and photos for the booth (we can assist with that) and assembling additional volunteers for whatever time segments you might want to set up to cover the 5 hour period. Students and student chapters can be part of this endeavor.

Please consider this and let us know if you are interested. If no one steps up, we will not participate and we will lose this opportunity.

University Student Chapter Project Updates

Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) :: <http://ewb.groups.msoe.edu/>

Active Projects:

Tres Cruces Bridge - Joyabaj, Guatemala



This bridge was completed by EWB-MSOE, EWB-WPP, and the local community on March 5, 2010.

Piedras Lisas Solar System, Guatemala

MSOE has postponed the implementation trip to the first week in June 2010. Further discussions with the community about the loading of the system is ongoing. The mentor will likely begin buying materials the first week of April 2010.

Future Projects

MSOE is planning to start a water project next (a project which will probably span multiple years). Plans are to work with Lyn Roberts in Guatemala to survey various sites. The students are also beginning to look for mentors and we will try to get some other chapters to come and present to the group about doing water projects. One or more survey trips are planned over the next year.



Marquette University (MU) :: <http://www.eng.mu.edu/~ewb/index.html>

Active Projects:

Honduras Water System Renovation Project - Joyas de Carballo, Francisco Morazán

Joyas de Carballo is home to approximately 500 families with a water system well over its expiration date due to lack of maintenance and the fact that it is simply old. The community members are not paying for their water and instead getting it from other (contaminated) sources because the system is unreliable. This project aims to do two things: improve the *quantity* of water and the *quality* of water for the villagers. Phase 1 of the project deals strictly with distribution and involves a completely new design of the system that ensures water is reaching to each house currently in the community with room for growth. Phase 2 of the project will deal with disinfection, something we have recognized as an important addition to their system. The research regarding disinfection has been held up until the distribution implantation is well underway.



Dam where spring collects – source
(beginning of system)



A pila (concrete structure at most homes to store water while not running the tap, common in most Central American countries)

We may be requesting a volunteer/mentor to work with the group and travel in August 2010 – someone who is familiar with or interested in working with water projects and is available to travel (tentative August 7-17, 2010). Contact Paige Peters if interested at paige.peters@mu.edu.

La Nueva Providencia Electrification Project - La Nueva Providencia, Sololá, Guatemala

This project was started because of an existing relationship with the community through Fr. Greg Schaffer at the San Lucas Mission. The community had been without any source of power, and was unable to raise the funds or pay the electric rates to be connected to the power grid. Based on discussions with the community, it was determined that they most wanted to use the power to provide light throughout the community and in their homes.

We also have plans to develop a microeconomic model with the community's input, further increasing their quality of life. Research was done to determine what would be the cheapest and most sustainable power source. The large elevation drop of some nearby spring-fed streams led us to begin the project focusing on a micro hydroelectric solution. Due to a donation by BPSolar, a solar power project was then formed to provide light in public spaces during the evening.

An assessment trip was taken in May 2008 to determine the feasibility of both elements of the project. Land surveys helped us to determine location of important components. We also furthered our relationship with the villagers and created more channels of communication.



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Marquette University (MU) (continued)

An implementation trip was taken in March 2009, on which five (5) solar panels were installed on the school building and wires were installed to provide power to the community center. Wired lights were installed in both buildings. 245 meters of pipeline to carry the water from the spring box collection point to the powerhouse were laid and the foundation for the future powerhouse was constructed in March 2009. 13 street lights were installed in January 2010. The August 2010 trip is intended to complete construction of the powerhouse and connect it to the previously laid pipe. The solar panel system will also be completed with the installation of nine (9) additional panels.



The path lights working on the final day of the January 2010 Implementation trip.

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee (UWM) :: <http://www.ewb.uwm.edu>

Active Projects:

Potable Water Project - Quejchip, Guatemala

The potable water distribution and sanitation project in Quejchip, Guatemala Phase II was finished in July. The project team built a chlorinator at the distribution tank and ran ~4 kilometers of buried PVC pipe to 48 houses. Tap stands were built for each household. A village teacher along with the UWM team presented a Health and Hygiene education program for both kids and adults. A Latrine and Hand Washing Station was also built for the elementary school.

Michigan Technological University (MTU) :: <http://ewb.students.mtu.edu/>

Active Projects:

Clean Water Supply/Stoves - Fronterizo/Canton Libertad, Guatemala

This project includes constructing new water wells for two communities, assessing the type and condition of cook stoves used in the community. That information will be used to design, promote and construct a more efficient stove to improve health of the people and to reduce deforestation in the area. Anticipated May 2 – 14 travel, pending approval by EWB-USA.

Community Health and Nutrition Center - El Porvenir, Honduras

A child care center and health facilities will be built to provide meals and health care for orphaned children. The project will include constructing a new building and utilities to support the facilities.



OFFICERS LISTING

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INFORMATION

If you are interested in learning more about Engineers Without Borders, visit the following websites:

National Website

www.ewb-usa.org

Chapter Website

www.ewb-wpp.org



The EWB-WPP chapter now has groups set up on LinkedIn and Facebook. Click on the following links to become a group member and to connect with other group members:

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2146334

Facebook

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=218125455084

The next EWB-WPP meeting
will be held on:

April 13th at 6pm
at Graef office
at
125 S 84th St # 401
Milwaukee, WI 53214

MADISON CHAPTER LISTINGS

EWB - Madison Area Professional Chapter

www.ewbmapc.com

EWB - UW Madison Student Chapter

www.ewbuw.org