

State News for NSPE Members

Meet Your 2021-22 State Leadership Team

State President/Foundation Vice Chair and Trustee
Bob Thomsen, P.E.



Bob Thomsen has over 29 years of career experience, 25 of those years have been at Geotechnical & Environmental Services Inc. He is currently a principal engineer and is licensed in Arizona and Nevada.

State President-Elect/National Delegate/Foundation Trustee
Martin Jensen, P.E.



Martin Jensen has been the geotechnical and environmental department manager for NOVA Geotechnical & Inspection Services since October 2013. He started his career in the Las Vegas Valley in 2000 and is licensed in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, and Utah.

State Immediate Past-President/Foundation Chair and Trustee
Brian Kalina, P.E.



Brian Kalina has more than 15 years of experience in construction and engineering responsibilities, 10 of those years have been in the natural gas industry. He is currently a technical services manager with the Southwest Gas and is licensed in Nevada.

State Treasurer/Foundation Trustee
Michael Ross, P.E.



Michael Ross has more than 15 years in the natural gas industry and is currently the supervisor of compliance with Southwest Gas. He is licensed in Nevada.

State Secretary/Foundation Trustee
Christian Herrera, P.E.



Christian Herrera is a distribution engineer for Southwest Gas and previously worked for NV Energy. He is licensed in Nevada.

State Vice President /Auditor/Foundation Trustee

[Robert Aytes, P.E.](#)

STEM Outreach Chair/Foundation Trustee

[Brook Demitropoulos, P.E.](#)

Past Chairman/Foundation Trustee

[Craig Sisco, P.E., F.NSPE](#)

Order of the Engineer Chair/Foundation Trustee

[David James, Ph.D., P.E., F.NSPE](#)

MATHCOUNTS Coordinator/Foundation Trustee

[Claire Kohatsu, P.E.](#)

Foundation Trustee

[Tom Miller, P.E.](#)

Foundation Trustee

[Jonathan Tull, P.E.](#)

NSPE-NV Meeting Recap—Organizational Change Management

NSPE-NV hosted a luncheon meeting featuring Jason Gardner, CPTD, the manager of organizational change for the Southwest Gas. Gardner recently completed a two-year job rotation where he oversaw the organizational change activities for the largest transformation project in SWGas history: the Customer Information System conversion to SAP. The meeting was held at Lawry's The Prime Rib on October 19.

The Presenter—Jason Gardner, CPTD



Jason Gardner, CPTD, is the manager of organizational change for Southwest Gas, a natural gas transportation and distribution company with over 2300 employees across a three-state service territory. In this role, he strategizes and delivers expert organizational change management leadership and support for department-level and large-scale organizational change projects across the Southwest Gas enterprise.

Gardner's team focuses on addressing the people side of change projects (e.g., process, technology, organizational structure, and culture changes), and collaborates with groups

and levels across the organization including project teams in integrating change management activities into their business and project plans.

Gardener is one of the first Certified Professionals in Talent Development in Southern Nevada, achieving this certification in 2009. He is also past president of the local chapter of the Association for Talent Development (formerly ASTD).

Special Thanks!

NSPE-NV would like to thank the sponsor of this month's meeting—Southwest Gas.



NSPE-NV Outreach in Action: Summerlin Festival of Arts

NSPE-NV once again exhibited its strong commitment to outreach and STEAM education by participating in the [Summerlin Festival of Arts](#) on October 9-10. Members hosted a booth to showcase fun, hands-on engineering activities.



The Summerlin Festival of Arts is a popular outdoor festival at Downtown Summerlin, the community's open-air fashion, dining, and entertainment center. The event attracts more than 50,000 festival-goers throughout this two-day weekend event. The festival includes children's activities, food, and entertainment to create a full-bodied experience that has made it one of the most beloved annual events in Southern Nevada.



Volunteer Opportunity: Just One Project–Pop Up & Give

NSPE-NV is calling on members to volunteer for the next **Mobile Food Market** distribution project on **Saturday, October 23** (7:45 a.m.-11 a.m.) at Canyon Springs High School (350 E Alexander Rd, North Las Vegas, NV 89032).

If you can volunteer, please send an RSVP to Brook Demitropoulos [via email](#) or call 702-336-9896. Please wear comfortable shoes. Children ages 10 and up are welcome to participate.

State Licensing Board News

The Nevada Board of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors has released its latest newsletter—October 2021. Learn about new regulations, board appointments, renewal reminders, and updates on other licensure and examination topics in this issue.

And did you know that you can earn a PDH by reading an article about the adoption of new regulations? Don't wait...access the newsletter on the [board website](#).

Board Public Hearing

The licensing board will conduct a virtual public hearing to receive comments about the adoption of regulations that pertain to Chapter 625 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

The public hearing will be held [virtually via Zoom](#) on **Thursday, November 18** at 9:15 a.m. Access the hearing agenda [here](#).

Report: Built Environment Shortfalls and Economic Inequities Exacerbate Heat Affects

Gaps in Nevada's built environment make heat dangerous for its residents, especially those with lower incomes, according to report by Nancy Brune and Lucy Rodriguez. The researchers recently wrote about their findings in a guest column for the [Las Vegas Sun](#).

In interviews with residents of Southern Nevada, they found that most people are impacted by the heat while in transit to work or school, and while in school. The affects are also divided by socioeconomics, they said. Lower-income citizens tend to suffer more because of things like broken air conditioners in their cars, waiting at hot bus stops, walking, or sitting in old schools with outdated HVAC systems. The pair recommend that leaders rethink the built environment with these factors in mind, especially considering rising average temperatures.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Volunteer Leaders Make a Difference – Are You Ready?

Do you want to influence the future of the profession? Are you a young professional looking to advance your career? Have your professional achievements created a desire to give back and serve?

Join NSPE leaders Tricia Hatley, Megan Schultz, and Craig Sisco on **November 1** (4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET) as they explore the rewards, benefits, and requirements of volunteer service. NSPE President Rick Guerra will serve as the moderator during this **free webinar**.

Attendees will learn about the opportunities available and gain an understanding of the skills and abilities desired for these positions. The panelists will also share real-life stories of how volunteer service with NSPE has improved their careers and provided fulfillment of their goals and aspirations. [Register now](#).



Tricia H. Hatley,
P.E., F.NSPE



Megan J. Schultz,
P.E.



Craig S. Sisco,
P.E., F.NSPE



Rick J. Guerra,
P.E., F.NSPE

Delaware Improves Licensure Mobility for PEs

Legislation designed to expand licensure mobility for professional engineers in Delaware was signed by Governor John Carney on September 17. Members of the Delaware Engineering Society let state legislators know of their support for the bill through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#), a critical factor in gaining support for its passage.

The amendments to the state's PE law provide multiple licensing opportunities. Individuals with an NCEES Record or who qualify as a Model Law Engineer will now find it easier to obtain a PE license in Delaware. The law was also amended to recognize applicants who are graduates of an engineering educational program approved by an accrediting agency that is a signatory to the Washington Accord. The accord covers 21 countries, including Australia, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

An applicant with a minimum of five years of continuous and verifiable experience as a professional engineer can also apply for comity licensure. These applicants must also submit five references, three of which must be from professional engineers licensed in the US, Canada, or an International Professional Engineer registrant under the International Engineering Alliance.

The law's new provisions also eliminate the requirement that licensees can use only an embossed seal, making way for use of a digital seal.

Challenges Facing the Profession



NSPE Immediate Past President Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, offers her advice on how engineers can get the most satisfaction from their careers in a four-part series featured in *Machine Design*.

In the first article installment, [Challenges Facing the Profession](#), Hatley discusses the value of professional engineering licensure and the challenges the profession faces—population growth and urbanization, the recent pandemic and its short and long-term effects on society, the need for diversity to increase the ranks of engineers, and advances in technology.

Member Benefit: Build Your Financial Future with BHG

Did you know that NSPE has a member-benefit partner to support your financial needs? BHG offers members a variety of financial solutions including:

- Business loans to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, working capital,

technology or equipment, business acquisition, or startup costs;

- Personal loan solutions to cover expenses such as debt consolidation, investments, life events, or major purchases;
- SBA 7(a) loans for business debt consolidation, or costs associated with startup or acquisition, real estate, renovation, or expansion; and
- Credit cards that offer low rates, cash back, and elite rewards, designed for professionals.

For more information or to get started, visit the BHG [website](#) .

Not sure what financial solution is right for you but trying to improve your credit health? Learn four great ways to improve your credit health in BHG's recent webinar, [The Credit Gambit](#) .

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