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KENTUCKY ENGINEERS’ Golf Classic
SEPTEMBER 19, 2018
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My year as the KSPE president concluded with the annual convention in Owensboro. I can't believe how fast the year passed. While busy, it was extremely rewarding, mainly based on the quality of people currently involved with KSPE, both at the staff and member levels. With respect to the new President, the KSPE membership is in excellent hands. Matt Rogers has a solid understanding of both the issues and opportunities. His likeability and demeanor will make it difficult not to be successful.

WHY KSPE
KSPE membership continues to be an excellent investment that brings value. The strongest teams and professions are those that have a strong professional group supporting the membership. For Kentucky engineers KSPE serves this role. I’m so fortunate that a mentor pushed me to KSPE and suggested involvement, not just attendance. As I mentioned in my talk at the convention the membership advantages related to continuing education, networking, and engineering outreach are obvious. However, the silent advantage is the constant advocacy that goes on behind the scenes and is so difficult for younger engineers to recognize. The college engineering curriculum is heavily loaded with math and science classes. However, once in the workforce it becomes obvious that decisions are being driven in the political and economic development circles. The past Kentucky legislative session is a perfect example of why an advocacy group is needed. There were efforts to restructure the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, and a new prioritization model was used to develop the next Highway Plan. Two other examples that were not targeted by the Kentucky General Assembly this session, but are under pressure nationally, are the constant threats to professional licensure and the Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process used to procure professional design services for publicly funded projects. These two items will need continuous oversight. The good thing - KSPE is on watch 24/7 on behalf of the profession and the practicing engineer.

Annual Convention
This year’s convention in Owensboro was held at their new convention center and marked the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society. The convention was well attended and I was so glad we selected a location outside the Louisville/Covington/Lexington triangle. Hopefully, it made a statement that KSPE is committed to the entire state and all 13 chapters.

Lifelong Learning and Training
I started my year providing a list of my priorities. Two of the points were that engineers must place an emphasis on lifelong learning, plus we all must recognize that procedures and business models can become antiquated over time. Individuals, agencies, and companies will only survive if they adapt quickly and stay in tune with their customers’ changing habits and the advances in technology. KSPE is structured to help with these issues. If you identify a continuing education or training need that is not currently offered, please contact the Engineering Center.

A Closing Thanks
Finally, I want to sincerely thank the membership and staff for the trust placed in Kelly Meyer. I also thank the 82 previous leadership teams for laying the foundation that is in place today. I will continue to be involved based on what the organization has done for my career. It is a first class organization and I’m proud to call myself a member. I encourage you to recommend KSPE to the younger individuals in your companies and agencies. Thank you again.
Be A Part of the 21st Class of Leadership P.E.

Learn More and Apply Online at http://www.kyengcenter.org

Deadline for application submittals for the 2018 - 2019 class is June 30th.

If you know of someone who would benefit from this program, please forward the information.

Leadership P.E. is a leadership development program designed to encourage, strengthen and build the professional careers and the civic involvement of entry- and mid- to upper-level engineers. This will be accomplished through organized career-training sessions and networking with business and community contacts and peers, as well as interactive meetings with community decision makers. It will involve a cross-section of leaders or potential leaders who are active in business, education, the arts, religion, government, community-based organizations and ethnic and minority groups. It will reflect the diversity of the professional engineering community. This unique and positive image- and career-building program is designed specifically to benefit persons in the engineering profession. Typically, fifteen individuals are chosen to participate in the Leadership PE program. Participants must be either EITs or PEs. They will be selected to participate in eight specially designed leadership experiences over an eight-month period. The charter class was selected in the summer of 1998. Leadership P.E. follows the concepts developed by Leadership KY and other similar leadership programs. Leadership P.E. is the first of its kind to focus on professional engineers. As such, Leadership P.E. was designed, organized and implemented by members of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE), the American Council of Engineering Companies of Kentucky (ACEC-KY) and the Kentuckiana Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (KP-SAME).
DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Growing up, my parents always told me that the older you get the more quickly time goes by. As I’ve grown older… and now with college-aged children of my own, I couldn’t agree more. When you add to that days filled with a flurry of activity—such as we’ve experienced over the last several months at the Kentucky Engineering Center—it only makes the days go by even quicker.

As the beautiful Kentucky spring weather takes up residence, it’s a nice time to tap the brakes a bit and reflect on all we’ve been about these last few months. Here are some highlights for you…

2018 KSPE Annual Convention

Thank you to those who joined us in Owensboro for this year’s KSPE Annual Convention. Approximately 230 KSPE members came together to share and learn about the latest issues and topics impacting the engineering and surveying professions. The extensive professional development and networking opportunities, along with some live entertainment and great food, made for a winning combination at this year’s convention. Having not been to Owensboro for a few years, we were excited for what the new convention center and revitalized downtown had to offer. Based on feedback, we look forward to visiting Owensboro again soon.

Highlighting Thursday’s luncheon was the installation of your 2018-19 KSPE leadership team:

- President: Matt Rogers, PE (DDS Engineering, PLLC – Bowling Green)
- President-Elect: Kristen H. Crumpton, PE (AECOM – Louisville)
- Treasurer: R. Darin Hensley, PE, LSIT (EA Partners, PLC – Lexington)
- Secretary: Lora Boller, PE, LSIT (DLZ Kentucky – Lexington)
- Bluegrass Region VP: Stephanie I. Blain, PE, LEED AP (Palmer Engineering – Lexington)
- Central Region VP: Marvin Wolfe, PE (Kentucky Transportation Cabinet – Frankfort)
- Eastern Region VP: Cliff Latta, PE (Vaughn and Melton – Middlesboro)
- Louisville Region VP: Wesley C. Sydnor, PE (Louisville MSD – Louisville)
- Western Region VP: Joseph T. Watson, PE (American Engineers, Inc. – Glasgow)
- National Delegate: Michael C. Harris, PE (Jacobi Toombs & Lanz, Inc. – Louisville)
- Past President: Kelly R. Meyer, PE, LS (HDR – Louisville)

During Friday’s closing luncheon, convention attendees heard from KSPE’s own Steve Gardner, PE, SME-RM as he delivered the Keynote address. A life-long member of KSPE, Steve has served as President and CEO of ECSI, LLC—an engineering and consulting firm based in Lexington—for 35 years, where his practice focused on natural resources, mining, reclamation, energy, environmental, health and safety issues. Most recently, President Trump has nominated Steve to be Director of the U.S. Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement in the Department of Interior, and he is currently awaiting confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

We appreciated Steve’s insight and perspective on the current and future state of mining in the U.S. as he discussed Innovation, Ethics, and Mining in Society. I also want to recognize Steve’s commitment to the engineering profession, to the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, and—upon confirmation—his willingness to serve the president and our country in this new capacity in Washington.

Check out pictures and read more about this year’s convention in this edition of the Kentucky ENGINEER magazine. As we look ahead to next year’s convention, we encourage you to share your feedback from this year’s event. We always appreciate feedback, and we welcome your suggestions on how we can improve your KSPE Annual Convention experience.

2018 Kentucky General Assembly

As I penned my last column, the 2018 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly had just begun and there were many issues to tackle including public pension reform, tax reform, the state budget, and the next highway plan. Through regular, weekly legislative updates and reports, members kept track as these and other issues were addressed by your elected representatives in Frankfort.

As expected, changes to public employees’ pensions—including changes to the Kentucky Teachers Retirement...
System—proved to be the most challenging. Debate on various pension reform proposals touched off strong reactions by those on both sides of the issue, but last-minute action in both chambers delivered passage of SB 151 during the waning days of the 60-day session before sending it to Governor Bevin’s desk for signature. While SB 151 cleared the legislative hurdles, its provisions and the legality of its reforms are being challenged in a lawsuit that is pending further action in the Franklin County Circuit Court.

In a rare Saturday meeting, the Kentucky General Assembly adjourned Sine Die on April 14, closing out the rollercoaster session. The final two days of the session saw the General Assembly override several of Governor Bevin’s vetoes, including his vetoes of the Executive Branch Budget (HB 200) and the General Fund revenue bill (HB 366) which included various state tax code changes. Vote margins overriding the bills were larger than expected in both chambers, and both bills will now govern government spending over the next two fiscal years. The Governor and the legislature disagreed over the anticipated fiscal impact of these bills, with the Governor expressing concern that the tax change provisions would lead to General Fund structural imbalances that will need to be fixed. After the veto override actions, Governor Bevin indicated he may call a special session later this year to consider more comprehensive tax reform.

Another bill we tracked this session was HB 465—the Boards and Commissions Reorganization bill. We closely monitored the progress of this bill and anticipated it would get across the finish line before legislators left town. Unfortunately, that didn’t happen. In the absence of final passage, the question now becomes whether the governor will institute organizational changes to a number of state boards and commissions—including the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors—through an executive order, or will he wait and pursue those changes through legislation in the 2019 Regular Session. Additional details will be provided as they are known.

MATHCOUNTS
This year’s statewide MathCounts competition was a great success as it moved back to Lexington and was held at the University of Kentucky. Congratulations to all of this year’s mathletes who competed in our 13 chapter competitions across Kentucky in February, and in the state competition on March 24. Representing Kentucky at the national competition in Washington, DC later this month will be Ayush Kumar and Lynn Ye—both eighth graders from Winburn Middle School in Lexington—along with eighth grader Shubh Gupta and seventh grader Luke Mo—both from Meyzeek Middle School in Louisville. These bright young kids will be led by Coach Paula Mlinar from Lexington’s Winburn Middle. Congratulations on your success in Lexington and we wish you all the best as you compete on the national stage in our nation’s capital! Enjoy the experience!

Check out more coverage of this year’s state MathCounts competition in this edition of the Kentucky ENGINEER magazine.

Leadership PE
Since my report in the last edition of the Kentucky ENGINEER magazine, the final three sessions for the 20th class of Leadership PE have been held. Participants attended the Professionalism Session at General Butler in late January, the Legislative Session in Frankfort in February, and the Personal Management Session in Bowling Green in March. These sessions capped off a great LPE Program this year.

For 20 years now, Leadership PE has produced quality results and enhanced the lives and careers of each program participant. LPE graduates have gone on to become leaders in their respective workplace, and leaders within the sponsoring organizations of LPE—KSPE, ACEC-KY and SAME-KP. The program could not have remained so relevant and successful over the last 20 years without the dedication and commitment of our session leaders and all of the presenters who give their time and share their expertise and insight during the 9-month program. Thank you for your commitment and for giving back to your profession and the LPE Program!

Congratulations to the 2017-18 Class of Leadership PE!
The following individuals graduated on April 20 at the KSPE Annual Convention in Owensboro:

- Brad T. Allgeier, PE (Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.)
- Kent Ballard, PE (HDR)
- Jordan A. Basham, PE (Louisville MSD)
- Bradley D. Bottoms, PE (Kentucky Transportation Cabinet)
- Danielle V. S. Dresch, PE (Heritage Engineering)
- Steve W. Emly, PE (Qk4, Inc.)
- Jonathan L. Hale, PE (Thoroughbred Engineering)
- Anthony S. Hurst, PE (Mason & Hanger)
- Dav T. Kessinger, PE (Michael Baker International)
- Jason R. Littleton, PE, LSIT (American Engineers, Inc.)
- Jeffrey T. Schuchter, PE, LSIT (Northern Kentucky Water District)
- Ryan E. Stevens, PE, LSIT (Municipal Engineering Company)
- Mathew G. Van der Meer, PE, PTOE (Parsons Transportation
Group
• Corey D. White, PE (US Army Corp of Engineers)
• C. Zachary Wilder, PE (Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.)

For those who have participated in the Leadership PE program, you know how impactful the experience can be. For those who haven’t, your opportunity to apply for the next class is here. Applications are due by June 30th and additional information can be found in this edition of the Kentucky ENGINEER magazine. Please consider becoming part of the Leadership PE program!

New NSPE Membership Model
By now, all KSPE members have received a letter outlining changes that are coming with the start of the new fiscal year on July 1. These changes are the result of modifications to the membership/business model being implemented by the National Society of Professional Engineers across the country. An overview of these changes and how they will impact all memberships—including KSPE “state only” members—was provided during the Annual Convention in Owensboro. If you were unable to attend the convention, or if you did not receive the referenced letter, please contact Jennifer, Marcie or me and we will provide you with a copy. Additionally, if you have any specific questions regarding these changes, please contact us at the Engineering Center.

Looking Ahead
As we shift our focus to things to come, we have a full plate of activities for you to look for in the weeks and months ahead:
• 22nd Annual Kentucky Engineers’ Golf Classic, September – Circle your calendar for September 19 for this year’s golf classic to be held at the University Club of Kentucky in Lexington. We had great weather, great participation, and great fun at last year’s event. Make plans to play in this year’s tournament and help raise money for the KSPE George M. Binder Scholarship and a Project Lead the Way teacher’s scholarship. Check out the Kentucky Engineering Center’s website (www.kyengcenter.org) for more details as we get closer to the event.
• Professional Development Opportunities – As always, regularly check the Kentucky Engineering Center’s calendar of events, located at www.kyengcenter.org, for the latest professional development training opportunities.

Final Thoughts
Before closing my report, I want thank Kelly Meyer for his service and dedication to the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers as your president this past year. For those who know Kelly, you’re aware of his infectious energy and his zeal for life. As expected, Kelly poured his heart and soul into his service for you and your organization. Kelly has been a pleasure for all of us to work with, and the engineering profession has been well served with Kelly’s guidance and leadership this past year. Thank you for your friendship and thank you for your service, Kelly!

As we begin a new year, I’m excited to work alongside 2018-19 President, Matt Rogers, and the rest of the KSPE leadership team. Matt has been a valued-member of the KSPE leadership team for many years, and he’s committed to leading KSPE in the weeks and months ahead. Matt wants us to learn from one another as we deliver the value-added service you deserve and the profession deserves. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the direction of your organization—whether at the chapter, state or national level—don’t hesitate to contact Matt, a member of the KSPE Board of Directors, or your staff at the Engineering Center. This is your KSPE and we are here to serve you!

All the best!

Russell L. Rome

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
continued...
2017 Enforcement Statistics
Beginning of year files active - 62
Complaint files opened – 50
   (25 engineering, 25 surveying)
Investigations completed / files closed – 60
Year-end files active – 52

Complaints closed with no action warranted – 25
Admonishments – 11
Agreed injunctions / orders (unlicensed practice) – 2
Reprimands, fines, probation, etc. – 7
Suspensions – 6
Revocations / surrenders – 5

Total files closed – 60

*** Suspensions and revocations includes licensees who failed to comply with the terms of a prior consent decree. ***

The majority of complaint investigations do not result in a disciplinary action. In many cases, it is determined that no violation has occurred. In other cases, where the violation is relatively minor and/or other circumstances warrant, a Letter of Admonishment is issued to the licensee. Such letters are not disciplinary actions, but intended to educate the licensee and warn against further such behavior.

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Calendar of Events 2018
July 26    Committee Meetings
          Frankfort KY
July 27    Board Meeting
          Frankfort KY
August 14-18  NCEES Annual Meeting
              Scottsdale AZ
October 11 Committee Meetings
              Frankfort KY
October 12 Board Meeting
              Frankfort KY
October 26  PE, STR Vertical Exams
              Louisville KY
October 27  STR Horizontal Exam
              Louisville KY

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS SUMMARY
For The Period
January 13, 2018 – April 27, 2018

TYLER WADE JULLIARD, PE
Tyler Wade Julliard, PE of Lynchburg, Ohio was disciplined for failing to comply with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements for professional engineers, in violation of 201 KAR 18:196, and for falsely representing on his 2017 online renewal that he had complied with the CPD requirements, in violation of KRS 322.180 Section 1. The case was settled by a Consent Decree wherein Mr. Julliard acknowledged the violations and agreed to pay a $1,000 fine. In addition to the fine, Mr. Julliard agreed to a schedule by which he would submit documentation of his participation in CPD activities during the 2017 / 2018 reporting period. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on April 27, 2018.

PATRICK A. KNOLL, PE
Patrick A. Knoll, PE of Evansville, Indiana was disciplined for providing professional engineering services in Kentucky through the business entity Alt & Witzig Engineering, Inc. after the business entity permit for that firm had expired, in violation of KRS 322.060. The case was settled by a Consent Decree wherein Mr. Knoll acknowledged the violation and agreed to a written reprimand and a fine of $5,000. The Board accepted the
SAYING GOODBYE

Frank L. Rothfuss, Jr.
1940 - 2018

Frank L. Rothfuss, Jr., 77, of Union, Kentucky passed away on Saturday, March 31, 2018. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky on October 8, 1940 to the late Frank L. Rothfuss and Margaret May (nee Gumm).

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his step-father, Robert B. May and one brother, James Rothfuss.

Frank was a member of the First Church of Christ in Burlington and worked as a Civil Engineer in both the private and government sectors. He was a former member of several engineering societies including the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers where he served as president for many years.

Frank is survived by his beloved Wife of 53 years, Dianne Rothfuss (nee Burleson); two children Jeffery W. (Christine) Rothfuss and Melinda A. Rothfuss; one grandson, Evan P. Rothfuss; three sisters Leila Johnson, Betty DeMala and Ada Hartz; two brothers, Mike Rothfuss and Robert May, Jr. as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family and friends all of whom will cherish his memory.

The family will host a Celebration of Life at the First Church of Christ, 6080 Camp Ernst Rd., Burlington, Ky., 41005 at 1:00 pm Saturday, April 7, 2018 with a visitation from 11:00 am until service time at the Church.

Newcomer Cremations, Funerals & Receptions, 4350 Dixie Highway, Erlanger, Ky. in charge of arrangements.

In Lieu of Flowers Frank’s family ask that contributions be made in his memory to The Point, 104 W. Pike St., Covington, Ky., 41011; ALS Association, 8640 Haines Dr., Florence, Ky., 41042 or St. Elizabeth Hospice, 483 S. Loop Rd., Edgewood, Ky., 41017.
STEM HIGHLIGHT

at the 2018 KSPE Annual Convention

THANK YOU!

Groups Represented:
Kentucky MATHCOUNTS
Future Cities - Graves County
Project Lead the Way - Owensboro
Innovation Academy
VEX Robotics - Gateway Academy

We just wanted to thank Doug Klein for getting our STEM groups lined up to speak again this year! Thanks to the students and teachers for coming and speaking to the engineers in attendance. You did an outstanding job! The future of engineering is looking bright in Kentucky.
We want to first thank all of the volunteers from the Green River Chapter who came out to help us on site at registration and getting set up; those from Leadership PE who helped moderate the sessions, helped with AV set up, hosted and set up the hospitality suite, and helped miscellaneous throughout the entire event; our speakers who took time out of their busy schedules to prepare their presentations and then drove to Owensboro to speak to those individuals in attendance, and the sponsors who gave financially to support the various events, meals and audio visual. We want to thank you for your support of the organization and the engineers that we serve. The exhibitors who spent two days with us on site networking with our attendees, playing bingo, interacting with our attendees and just enjoying a great atmosphere - we appreciate your support of our event and our members. Without the support of all of these individuals, this event would not be possible so THANK YOU! We look forward to next year and hope to see all of you there.

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May 2018

May 21-24
InRoads III SS4 - Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort
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June 2018

June 6
KYTC Basic Traffic Engineering Design - Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort
Register online here!

June 8
Spring Dendrology & Native Tree Identification - Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest, Clermont
Register online here!

June 14
The Environmental Process for Project Managers - Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort
Register online here!

June 19-20
InRoads Survey - Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort
Register online here!

June 21-22
InRoads Survey - Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort
Register online here!

September 2018

September 4-6
2018 ACEC-KY/FHWA/KYTC Partnering Conference - Galt House Hotel, Louisville

Visit http://www.kyengcenter.org to see what other seminars are available!

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Year after year, we continue to see mathlete after mathlete compete and each year they just get better. The Kentucky State MATHCOUNTS team will be leaving this Saturday, May 12th to compete at the National MATHCOUNTS competition in DC. We could not be more excited to see a team compete and are wishing them all the best of luck.

The team will be led by head coach Paula Mlinar from Winburn Middle School whose team placed 1st at the state competition on March 24th which was held at Seay Auditorium at the Ag North Building on the University of Kentucky’s campus.

Coach Mlinar has been teaching at Winburn for the last ten years but has been teaching for 23 years overall. She’s been involved with MATHCOUNTS since 2013, having had the opportunity to coach the Kentucky team for the National competition in 2014 and 2017. Her favorite experience with MATHCOUNTS is getting to see the children’s excitement for math and learning through the competition. Deciding to coach a MATHCOUNTS team was made easy because she wanted to support her students quest for mathematical growth and learning. The target round is her favorite part of the competition because the problems are challenging but accessible on multiple levels. She finds that MATHCOUNTS has benefited her and her students to work, think and problem solve at a deeper level. To prepare for the National competition, Coach Mlinar planned to practice and do mock rounds of testing. As far as preparing and studying for MATHCOUNTS with her students, she says they practice once or twice a week, but as they get closer to the state competition, the students have daily practices. In summarizing her thoughts about MATHCOUNTS, Coach Mlinar said, “MATHCOUNTS
First place winner at the Kentucky MATHCOUNTS competition was Ayush Kumar, an 8th grader from Winburn Middle School in Lexington. Ayush is a 13 year old, born in India but has lived in the United States for the last 11 years. His father is a software engineer and his mother is an interior designer, with one younger brother, Aarav, and one younger sister, Vedanshi. When you ask Ayush what his favorite interest is, he simply says, “Math.” His favorite success story: “I won 1st at State MATHCOUNTS and placed 10th last year.” His other hobbies and interests include, future problems solving in which he won 1st in the International FPS Competition in 2016. His first experience with MATHCOUNTS was in 2016. Instrumental players in getting him involved with MATHCOUNTS would definitely be his parents, he says, “they have always pushed me to do better, especially in math.” When we asked if he had particularly fond experiences with MATHCOUNTS, he said that his first experience on an official team was very fun and that he was only on the team this year. Previously, he had competed as an individual for Winburn. For Ayush, his favorite subject in school is math because it is challenging and it requires problem solving. In regards to the future, Ayush is looking to go into something “economic related since those things require a multitude of mathematical concepts.” He hopes to attend Stanford or Harvard since they have good math programs. To prepare for MATHCOUNTS, Ayush practices one hour each day, except on Mondays and Thursday when he spends two hours practicing. Summarizing his experience with MATHCOUNTS, Ayush says, “MATHCOUNTS is amazing, the problems are challenging, and I love it a lot. My only suggestion would be to sponsor more events for mathletes to mingle since there are many great minds and wonderful opportunities.”

Eighth grader from Winburn Middle School in Lexington who took second place at the Kentucky MATHCOUNTS competition was Lynn Ye. Lynn is 13 years old and the daughter of an electrical engineer and math professor. Lynn like Ayush has math listed as her favorite hobby. However, another interest of hers is ping pong. She has been winning first in the 14 and under division. Her first experience with MATHCOUNTS was trying out in 2015/2016. Lynn’s dad has been instrumental in her getting involved in MATHCOUNTS and was the one who wanted her to try out for MATHCOUNTS. He teaches math at the University of Kentucky. She enjoyed the team round because it showed how difference skills can be useful. One of her favorite experiences has been the countdown round because it is such a difference type of test in MATHCOUNTS compared to sprint and target. When asked about her favorite school subject and why she enjoyed it, Lynn said, “Math because it requires logical reasoning. It has so many different topics like probability and 3-D geometry. So, there is always more to learn.” Moving towards the future, Lynn plans to pursue a major in math because there is a lot that can be learned and she would like to attend Harvard because it is a prestigious university. Lynn said, “I enjoy competing in MATHCOUNTS because it provides a fun learning experience.”

Third place at the Kentucky MATHCOUNTS competition went to 8th grader from Meyzeek Middle School in Louisville, Shubh Gupta. Shubh is the son of a physician and a housewife and has a younger sister, Myra, born in India but has lived in the United States for the last 11 years. Shubh has plenty of extra-curricular activities including Science Olympiad, Quick Recall, Quiz Bowl, Geo Bee and the Meyzeek Golf Team. He also enjoys playing sports with his friends and family like basketball and golf.
His first experience with MATHCOUNTS was in 2015 when he was in 6th grade at his school tryouts and instantly fell in love (his words). The people that were most involved in his success in MATHCOUNTS were his parents who were always supportive and encouraged him to pursue his interests. When asked about his fondest experiences with MATHCOUNTS, Shubh said that all of his experiences with MATHCOUNTS have been enlightening and that he is appreciative for all that MATHCOUNTS has done for him. When asked what his favorite experience with MATHCOUNTS has been, he said, “My favorite experience with MATHCOUNTS so far has been the entire three years I have been apart and all the memories I have had with my peers and teammates.” As far as his favorite school subject, Shubh enjoys U.S. History because of his amazing teacher and the various political ideas in early history that excite him. He says that math is interesting to him especially problem solving because it helps invigorate critical thinking. In regards to the competition, his favorite part is the target round because it evokes critical thinking and problem solving skills. As far as the future for college and majors, he is still undecided about where he would like to go. For the national competition, he just plans to enjoy the problems. His final thoughts on MATHCOUNTS, “MATHCOUNTS does a great job and needs to keep it up!”

Luke Mo, a seventh grader, from Meyzeek Middle School in Louisville took home fourth place at the Kentucky MATHCOUNTS Competition. Luke is the son of a researcher and professor and has one older brother. Luke’s interest include math and science. In math, he won fifth place in Governor’s Cup in 6th grade and 1st in Chapter MATHCOUNTS in 6th and 7th grade. In science, he won 10th place in state in 7th grade Governor’s Cup. His first experience with MATHCOUNTS was when he was in third grade when his brother won MATHCOUNTS. Instrumental to getting him involved in MATHCOUNTS were his coaches Mrs. Bridgewater and Mr. Cramton, who encouraged him to continue his endeavors in math. His fondest experience in MATHCOUNTS was when he won 1st place in chapter in 6th and 7th grade and winning 1st place in the State Countdown Round was his favorite experience with MATHCOUNTS. When we asked him about his favorite school subject, Luke said that he liked Spanish because he learns the most in Spanish class. Math interests Luke because you can think of many different solutions to a problem and be creative. Looking towards the future, Luke would like to pursue a major in chemistry or biology because they both require math and as far as a university or college, he would like to attend MIT or Harvard because they are both good colleges. When summarizing his thoughts on MATHCOUNTS, Luke said, “I believe MATHCOUNTS had a positive impact on my life because it taught me to think creatively and solve a multitude of real life problems.”

This is a great group of mathletes and we are looking forward to see how they perform on the National stage this weekend. We wish them all the best. We want to thank all of the volunteers and sponsors who have supported the Kentucky MATHCOUNTS program over the last 35 years – we could not make this happen without you! Thanks to all of the mathletes for continuing to work hard and practice all those extra hours after school, it is not going unnoticed. We thank all of the teachers and parents who support these kids every day practicing these problems, helping them to excel in the classroom. They are our future! You are investing your time and efforts in the best of places so keep up the great work. We look forward to another great year in 2019! See you then!
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