STATE ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION

35th ANNUAL REPORT

MADISON, WISCONSIN OCTOBER 15, 2005

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 35th Annual Meeting of the State Engineering Association. Planning and hosting this meeting takes a lot of hard work. Thanks to the Madison section for hosting this meeting, with special thanks to Mike Humke and Michelle Ellias.

This was my first year as President of SEA. It has been a busy, challenging, disappointing, yet rewarding year. I thank you for the opportunity to serve each of you as President. I would also like to thank the Executive Board, Committee Chairpersons, Sandy, Inger, Bob, Mel, Cara and Willi. Their dedication and hard work have made a difference to this organization by making it better and stronger.

The year started off with many issues that involved SEA. The Governor started implementing his initiative to reduce the State work force by 10,000 employees along with his budget that looked at agencies to make additional cuts. This organization took an aggressive approach by using open record requests to gather information on in-house versus consultant cost audit, regionalization plans and contingency plans. We tried to update our members with the information we received. We also distributed the cost comparison analysis that showed the State employee is more cost effective to our Legislators, Administrators and to the newspapers. This helped to minimize the impact to our organization.

Bargaining for the 2003-2005 is still being negotiated. The next bargaining session is October 19th. The State continues to show no urgency to settle our contract and has not bargained in good faith. The bargaining team remains dedicated to reaching a fair contract for its members. We are also prepared to move onto the 2005-2007 contract when the current contract negotiations are concluded.

The newsletter is now the SEA View. The View will be published more then two weeks earlier then the old newsletter and is available on our website. This will be a significant cost savings for our members. The website has also improved by providing more information with frequent updates.

The upcoming year looks to be especially challenging for our members. Please continue to be professional and get involved-you can make the difference.

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the company of other members and their families during your stay here in Madison.

Respectfully,

Mark Klipstein
SEA President