

ASABE Quad City Section Newsletter

ASABE - The Society for Engineering in Agricultural, Food, and Biological Systems

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Winter 2025

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From the Chair – Hello Quad City ASABE members, I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that the New Year is off to a great start for you! I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to our Section members and presenters for making the Winter Meeting such a success. A special thank you goes to the John Deere staff and Section members who helped organize the event at John Deere's Moline Technology Innovation Center (MTIC). I hope you found the presentations by Ron Schroeder, Dr. Stuart Birrell, and the Power Pullers Club at Iowa State University both informative and entertaining.

As we are preparing for our Spring Meeting, I'd like to remind everyone that we still have a vacancy on our Executive Committee. We are currently seeking someone to fill the Chair-Elect position. If you or someone you know would be a great fit for this role or any other position, please reach out to me or any member of our Nominating Committee: Jeff

Bennett, Carol Plouffe, and Niels Dybro. The Executive Committee has provided fantastic support during my tenure as Chair and would be more than happy to assist any new members willing to step into these roles.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our Tours Lead, Eric Allen, for organizing and hosting the Section tour at Agrisolutions Rock Island factory in November. The Agrisolutions team provided an exceptional tour of their office and factory, offering us a comprehensive look at their entire manufacturing process from start to finish. The hospitality displayed by the staff and tour guides was outstanding.

Additionally, special thanks go to our Meeting Arrangements Chair, Megan Mueller, for organizing the meal and ensuring a seamless Winter Meeting at MTIC. I appreciate all the hard work both Megan and Eric put in behind the scenes.

As I noted earlier, we had a fantastic turnout for the Winter Section Meeting, both in person and virtually. We aim to carry this momentum into our upcoming Spring Awards Meeting. Please keep an eye out for registration details in the next few weeks and encourage your fellow ASABE members and coworkers to sign up! – Matt Haas, 2024-2025 Quad City Section Chair

Fall Tour Review The ASABE Quad City Section had a great time at the [Agrisolutions](#) Rock Island Factory tour held on Tuesday November 12th. Members received an exclusive look at factory operations, production of planter opener blades, and the forming of tillage ground engaging components. Agrisolutions' Quality and Design managers led our group through the factory's tool room, quality area, heat treatment line, paint line, and assembly lines. Overall, 13 members attended the tour and were provided snacks and refreshments by the Agrisolutions team. Our next tour will be at the [John Deere Pavillion](#) in Moline on Tuesday May 13th at 3 pm. We will have dinner at the [River House](#) around 4:15 pm. – Eric Allen, Quad City Section Tour Coordinator

Winter Meeting Review: Maintaining the change from discontinuing meeting at St. Ambrose to lower meeting costs, this year's Winter Meeting, held on January 28th, was held at the Deere & Company Moline Technology and Innovation Center with approximately 35 in attendance including three St. Ambrose University students.

The first tech session speaker, [Ron Schroeder](#), a John Deere Harvester product engineer, spoke on his experience in developing and operating a farm based YouTube channel: [Hartung Family Farms - YouTube](#)

The second tech session speaker, [Stuart Birrell](#), an Associate Professor of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at Iowa State University, described the capabilities of the [Off-Highway Vehicle Chassis Dynamometer Laboratory](#). See [Off-Highway Vehicle Chassis Dynamometer Lab](#) for more details.

The after-dinner presentation was given by Alec Eggers and Wyatt Lundquist, two members of the [Cyclone Power Pullers - Home](#) quarter scale tractor design team at Iowa State University. They gave an overview of the [annual competition](#) and the Iowa State design for 2025.

Section Awards – Nomination forms for the three Quad City Section awards (Young Member,

Member and Outstanding Engineering Achievement) are available at <http://www.asabe.qcesc.org/awards-2/>. Please consider nominating one of your colleagues for one of these recognitions. These awards will be presented at the annual Awards Meeting on March 18th. Nominations are due by March 1st. Past recipients are listed at [Quad City Section Award Recipients](#) . – Dave Smith, Awards Chair

2025-26 Section Officers Needed - The Nominating Committee is looking for smart, energetic, professional members like you. We need leaders to provide your Section members with quality programs and services next year. Elective offices open are Chair-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary and three Nominating Committee positions. If you would like to serve as an officer or know of a qualified person to consider, let one of the members of the Nominating Committee know. The Chair-Elect position is in special need of a candidate. Serving as an officer of the ASABE Quad City Section is an excellent way to develop your leadership skills while working with your peers to promote the engineering profession.

Send your suggestions to:

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Nominees will be announced at the March 18th Awards Meeting.

Support for Trebuchet Contest - The QCESC will be hosting its annual [Trebuchet Egg Throw Contest](#) in April at the Bettendorf High School football

practice field. This competition is the second portion of the QC Tech Challenge where local high school teams (nearly 40 groups) compete in several design challenges (bridge building, egg throw, and cardboard boat race) for a team award and an individual scholarship.

We would like ten ASABE Quad City Section members to assist in scoring the performance of the trebuchets as well as judge the student presentations. Please contact Travis Ohms by [e-mail](#) to register as a volunteer for our Section!

AE50 Recipients – The AE50 recognition program of ASABE’s Resource magazine annually honors up to 50 of the most innovative products in the industries served by ASABE. The [2025 AE50 recipients](#) include five products related to the Quad City Section. Congratulations to all those involved with the introduction of these products including the Case IH AF11 combine which was the recipient of the Quad City Section’s 2024 Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award!

- [Case IH C500 Series Corn Head](#)
- [Case IH AF Series Combines](#)
- [Case IH Axial Flow® 260 Series Combines](#)
- [John Deere C Series Air Carts](#)
- [John Deere Active Slope Adjustment](#)

Closing Notes –



Anna Oldani

[Anna Oldani](#), then an agricultural engineering undergraduate student at the University of Illinois, received a scholarship from the Section in 2010 and 2011. Anna later received her PhD in mechanical engineering at Illinois specializing in alternative jet fuels. She currently is an engineer at the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration where she leads

numerous sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) projects. Her work focuses on the certification, production, and integration of SAF to ensure long-term aviation sustainability. She is passionate about discovering new routes to develop and deploy SAF.

As of January 28th, the Section had \$ 5,698.34 in its checking account in addition to \$ 10,425.19 in a certificate of deposit.

Upcoming Events - Check the Section’s [web site](#) and [public](#) Facebook page and [private](#) Facebook group for the most recent information on the Section and the following events:

February 20, 2025

[QCESC STEM Celebration](#)

March 1, 2025

Deadline for [Section award nominations](#) and for voting in [ASABE national election](#).

March 18, 2025

Quad City Section Spring/Awards Meeting

April 2025

Section support of the [QCESC Trebuchet Egg Throwing Contest](#)

May 13, 2025

Quad City Section Tour of [John Deere Pavilion](#) at 3 pm followed by dinner at the [River House](#) in Moline

May 29-June 1, 2025

[International ¼ Scale Tractor Student Design Competition](#), Expo Gardens Fairgrounds, Peoria, Illinois

July 13-16, 2025

[CSBE-ASABE Annual International Meeting](#), Toronto, Canada

ASABE Quad City Section Executive Committee 2024-2025

Elected Officers

Chair:

Matthew Haas
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Chair-Elect:

Open position

Past Chair:

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Open position (Chair-Elect)

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