

MAPConnect

August 2019

The Newsletter of



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS USA
Madison Area Professional Chapter

The Madison Area Professional Chapter of EWB supports the professional mentors who support the UW Madison chapter of EWB. Our newsletter keeps you in touch, shares the current opportunities for involvement, and inspires you to join in the important work that the MAPC is doing around the world.

In this issue, a profile of Steve Crowe, who is the Guatemala Country Director for EWB-USA. EWB UW and MAPC have been working with Steve for a number of years on projects, and he is a terrific resource.

MAPC provides many workshops for EWB UW students, and we are in the process of planning the upcoming Workshop Weekend, which is a one-day workshop extravaganza. Students and professionals from around WI will be sharing knowledge and experiences.

EWB UW continues to work in 4 locations, read on to learn more. Working with these dedicated students is inspiring and a pleasure. The October MAPC meeting will be an opportunity to meet the students and learn about their projects. Let us know where your interest lies, and we will help you get involved.

Editor - Brad Hughes

MAPC Executive Committee: Kevin Frost, Scott Burmeister, Ben Sonnentag

Upcoming Events: <http://www.ewbmapc.com/calendar.php>

MAPC Meetings are at 6 pm:

Weds, September 4th, Location: UW Memorial Union

Weds, October 2nd, Location: TBD

October's meeting will include presentations by all of the student projects

Workshop Weekend - Sun, Sept 29th

9:30 am-3:00 pm, UW Madison Engineering Campus

A series of presentations on non-technical and technical topics relevant to EWB's work

EWB-UW Student Programs and projects:

Guatemala - Zapote water

Uganda - Lweza school water

Ecuador - Camarones water and Tabuga School bridge

Puerto Rico- Mayagüez Shelter rooftop solar



Thank you to our sponsors:

<http://ewbuwmadison.weebly.com/sponsors.html>

Support the work that EWB Madison is doing: [Donate HERE](#)



Current Opportunities for Professionals:

- Fill out our [Professional Inventory](#) so we can contact you with projects in your area of expertise
- Attend the September or October MAPC Meeting to learn about project mentor needs
- Attend or Assist at the Workshop Weekend - contact Amanda Pustis at apustis@aeieng.com



Member Profile:

Steve Crowe

Title: EWB-USA Guatemala Country Director

I'm a mechanical engineer from Gannon University in 2004. For the first 12 years of my career I worked in renewable energy, first in New York, then from 2006 on in Guatemala. From 2010-2016, together with my wife Waleska, I ran a business doing design-build and repair work on microhydroelectric plants for communities and farms around Guatemala, with the largest producing 100kW and serving 350 families. In 2016 I helped found the EWB-USA Guatemala Office.

Hobbies and interests:

Pretty much any type of physical activity. Hiking, running, mountain biking, weightlifting, carrying rocks. I also like to read, especially biographies, history and books on Guatemala.

Family: My wife Waleska is EWB-USA's Deputy Director in Guatemala. We have two wonderful sons. Gabriel is 11 and Hael is 3.

What EWB programs or projects have you been involved with?

There are around 40 chapters active in Guatemala. Their projects range from potable water systems to school construction and improvements to bridges.

What have you learned or gained from working with EWB students?

EWB students often have an enthusiasm for helping people and a thirst for knowledge that are contagious. As I get older, being exposed to those helps me keep my own enthusiasm for helping and desire to learn. It's also satisfying to help guide students through the challenges they are facing, and helps keep me humble as I remember I used to and still face many of those challenges myself.

A memorable EWB experience to share:

My first experience as EWB staff was one of the most fun. The Syracuse Professional chapter built a composting latrine in the community of Las Majadas, Quetzaltenango. At that point there weren't many people in the office, so I coordinated all the purchases, hired the mason and coordinated his work, coordinated with the community and helped out when the chapter was on the project site. The variety of things that need to get done in an EWB project makes them all fun.

What inspires you to do your EWB work and mentoring?

I've always wanted to make a difference in people's lives doing work that I love. EWB allows me to be involved in engineering and help people that need it the most. Mentoring: My favorite part is the satisfaction that people get when they overcome a challenge they've been unable to overcome.

Do you have a hero or mentor in your career?

Mike Paddock has been a big inspiration to me since I've been with EWB. His dedication to the work and the people of Guatemala is amazing.

Do you have a book or podcast recommendation?

"Extreme Ownership" by Jocko Willink and "Team of Rivals" by Doris Kearns Goodwin are two of my favorite books on leadership.

A favorite travel experience (EWB or otherwise):

Right after I graduated from college I took about 3 months to travel around the US by bus, train and hitchhiking. As part of that journey I did an 11-day hike north-south through the Black Hills. It was late in the season, either late September or early October, and not many people were on the trail. That time gave me a lot of opportunity to reflect on my path in life, and eventually led me to travel to Latin America and pursue a career in humanitarian engineering.



Project Updates

Guatemala EWB-UW's Guatemala project is working towards the completion of fundraising and construction of the Zapote water distribution project. When completed, this spring-fed, gravity-driven 9-mile water pipeline will supply more than 600 men, women and children with safe, reliable and economical water. Earlier this year water reached the community, and the system currently serves the local school and a few houses. Our student-lead Guatemala team has plans to implement the remainder of this massive water system in January of 2020.



Uganda Uganda has been busy all summer preparing for their next implementation trip coming up this winter! Our team has submitted our final implementation report that details the remainder of the system from pump to tap. We are so excited to complete our project and will be dedicating the upcoming semester to final trip preparation so everything runs smoothly. Overall, it's an exciting time seeing all of our efforts coming together for this final implementation of our borehole fed, sustainable, clean water system, and we can't wait to be back with our community to see it installed.



Ecuador A travel team is in Ecuador performing the last assessment trip to gather necessary information for future implementation. Another goal of the trip will be to solidify in-country partnerships. Designs have been proposed and now the travel team will evaluate these options. Fundraising will continue to fund implementation of both the Tabuga School Pedestrian Bridge and the Camarones Water projects.

Puerto Rico The Puerto Rico project is centered at Hogar Albergue para Niños Jesús de Nazaret, a children's shelter in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. It is a home that offers shelter, food, transportation, education, social and psychological services to children up to the age of 12 who were victims of abuse or neglect. The shelter currently pays \$800-\$1,000 each month for power, which remains unreliable. The goal of this project is to install a 25 kW photovoltaic solar panel array with the aim to reduce the shelter's monthly electricity bill and provide reliable power. The initial layout and one-line designs were completed this summer and are awaiting review by a professional engineer in Puerto Rico. After the designs are revised and finalized, they will be submitted to Puerto Rico's power authority. Pending interconnection approval, the array will be installed early in 2020 across existing structures at the children's shelter and an additional dormitory building that is currently being constructed.

More info on EWB UW Madison programs : <http://ewbuwmadison.weebly.com/>

EWB MAPC info at [Twitter](#) or email us at ewbmapc@gmail.com

