



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mission: Empower Rochester's young professionals to advance their professional and personal life by creating a welcoming atmosphere to cultivate long-term connections.

Vision: An active, connected, and engaged group of young professionals building communities in southeastern Minnesota.

Committee Members

- Adam Giannini - *Chair*
- Matt Aldrich - *Vice Chair*
- Katie Olson - *Past Chair*
- Mark Miller
- Alissa Moe
- Adam Pleschourt
- Colton Simpson
- Kenzie Van De Walker

RAB Staff

- Rebekah Fierst
- John Eischen

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Chair

Adam Giannini - Knutson Construction Services
agiannini@knutsonconstruction.com
Member Since 2017

Adam Giannini is a project engineer at Knutson Construction in Rochester. He has worked at Knutson since 2022 but has been in the Rochester area since 2017. In 2013 he enlisted in the Minnesota Army National Guard as a Carpentry and Masonry Specialist and is currently in the 850th Engineering Construction Company out of Cambridge, Minnesota. During his time in the Army he was deployed in 2018/19 to the Middle East, spent a month in Croatia rebuilding a town hall, and various trainings and construction missions in the states.

In his free time he enjoys taking his dog Ghost for walks with his fiancé Alissa, hitting the links, playing in one of the many Rochester rec sports teams, and hanging out with friends. Most weekends of the year you can find him at his family's cabin in western Wisconsin. Other than the 40 Below Executive Committee, he is also a member on the RAB Board of Directors.



Vice Chair

Matt Aldrich - Kruse Lumber
maldrich@kruselumber.com
Member Since 2018

Matt Aldrich is an Administrative Assistant at Kruse Lumber here in Rochester. He has been with Kruse since graduating from Winona State University in 2017 with degrees in Human Resource Management and Business Administration. He enjoys finding creative and sustainable solutions to problems. He believes in a Kaizen (continuous improvement) approach to work and in life. He is passionate about improving the world around him.

In his free time, he enjoys staying as active as possible. On the ball field, whether it's baseball or softball. Hitting the links (keep your eyes peeled though). He also enjoys cooking, traveling and experiencing new places. You can find him cheering on his favorite Minnesota sports teams, and he'll never turn down grabbing a beer or trying a local brewery.



Past Chair

Katie Olson - Kimley-Horn & Associates
Katelyn.Olson@kimley-horn.com
Member Since 2017

Katie is a civil engineer at Kimley-Horn & Associates with experience in multi-family, commercial, industrial, retail, and solar and wind renewable energy developments. Katie's education is in physics and civil engineering from the University of Minnesota Upon graduating, Katie relocated to Rochester and has been here since. In her free time, Katie enjoys joining her friends at The Half Barrel listening to local musicians. She also enjoys long walks with her pup Kiera baby along Rochester's many trails. Rollerblading makes her list of favorites, but the accidents that inevitably come along with it seem to set that one back a little bit. Driving forward with her career as a civil engineer, Katie defines success as "living the life I'd want to live again".





COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Alissa Moe – Bremer Bank
ATMoe@Bremer.com
Member Since 2017

Alissa Moe is a National Specialty and Franchise Banker at Bremer Bank. Alissa has served the Rochester community with Bremer Bank since 2019, and switched to the national strategy team in 2022, focusing on franchised convenience stores across the country. Her involvement with RAB began in 2015 when she worked for Cambria as a Market Representative. Alissa was a founding member of 40 Below and continued her involvement with RAB through various committees and board positions.

When Alissa isn't working, she enjoys going golfing, downhill skiing, traveling, and spending time with her fiancé and dog.



Kenzie Van De Walker – Kraus Anderson Construction
kenzie.vandewalker@krausanderson.com
Member Since 2021

Kenzie Van De Walker is a Project Coordinator at Kraus Anderson Construction Company in Rochester. She has been with KA since August of 2021. She is recent graduate from Winona State with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She has grown a passion for construction as her dad has been pursuing a safety career in the construction field for the last 25 years.

What she enjoys about the construction field is how what seems so small and just starts on a piece of paper can be brought to life. She enjoys all the collaborative efforts that comes from the different types of teams to stride towards one common goal, the completion of the project. What she enjoys the most about her position is that she is behind the scenes and is rarely ever in the center of attention or has the spotlight, but is not taken for granted and always appreciated. She also enjoys the fact that she gets to be a small part of a big project that someday will help others succeed in their lifestyles. Lastly, she enjoys that no two days are the same and it is never day in and day out routine. There is always something to keep her on her toes.

In her free time, she enjoys going hiking or rollerblading with her fiancé Lindsey and her dog Bella. She also enjoys hosting others and trying new recipes to share with others. Most weekends you can either find Kenzie coaching softball for Byron or on the Mississippi River with her family in Wabasha, MN.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Colton Simpson – Solar Connection
colton.simpson@solarconnectioninc.com
Member Since 2021

Colton Simpson is an energy consultant for Solar Connection in Rochester. He has worked at Solar Connection since 2020 and moved to the Rochester area in 2019. At Solar Connection he is responsible for the growth of the SE Minnesota residential solar market, as well as the occasional commercial or agricultural project.

In his free time, you will find him working on his videography business. With his partner in Minneapolis, they produce and film "About us" videos for companies in the southwest metro. He also spends many weekends backpacking national parks and finding new ways to connect with the outdoors.



Mark Miller, Assoc. ASLA - Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH)
mmiller@sehinc.com
Member Since 2018

Mark Miller is a landscape architect with an emphasis on natural resources management and environmental design. He has worked at Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH) since 2016 following graduation from North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota. At SEH, he has taken on the role of a company-wide technology and visual engagement expert, as well as, the Rochester office GIS specialist. He has worked on a wide range of projects throughout the United States.

In Mark's free time he is usually spending time with friends and family and attempting to get better at volleyball through multiple leagues in the summer. He also enjoys hiking with his dog, nature photography, and creating drawings/digital artwork.



Adam Pleschourt - WIDSETH
Adam.Pleschourt@widseth.com
Member Since 2018

I am currently a civil engineer in training for Widseth in Rochester, MN. I interned for Widseth starting in 2016, and then joined full-time after graduating in 2018 from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. I met my wife at college in the same program. Being two civil engineers married to each other, we tend to forget that it's not normal dinner conversation to talk about storm sewer design, drainage patterns, and pavement design, so we get some eye rolls from friends and family when getting together. My job mostly consists of the design of both private sites and public infrastructure. We are the city engineers for Pine Island, and I grew up and still live in Pine Island, so it's been fun to serve that community. In my free time, I enjoy spending time outdoors, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, etc. I love spending time in the summer with family and friends at our family cabin just outside of Faribault. My wife and I also enjoy teaching confirmation at Pax Christi Church in Rochester. I've been involved in RAB since starting full time in 2018, and I look forward to making a difference by being a 40 below executive member.

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STAFF MEMBERS

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Rochester Area Builders

Executive Director

John Eischen

John@RochesterAreaBuilders.com

John Eischen is Executive Director of Rochester Area Builders, Inc. (RAB) an education and event management company that reinvests its profits in advocacy on behalf of the construction industry in southeast Minnesota (in other words, a local builders' trade association). With 25 years' experience in the construction industry, John is uniquely qualified to understand the challenges and opportunities that the industry faces and works hard to provide RAB members with an environment that helps them to be successful.

John studied English and Business Administration at The Winona State University while working as a bartender and waiter. Unbeknownst to John, that job experience would also be beneficial to his role at RAB when preparing for events, meetings and interacting with RAB members.

In his spare time, John enjoys brewing and consuming home brewed beer which goes hand-in-hand with his other pursuit of sidestepping the quagmire that is being outnumbered by females, both personally and professionally.



Rochester Area Builders

Member & Community Engagement Director

Rebekah Fierst

Rebekah@RochesterAreaBuilders.com

Rebekah Fierst is the Member & Community Engagement Director for Rochester Area Builders. In addition to her responsibilities with member recruitment & retention, she organizes 40 Below's events, the Association's monthly networking events, job shadow program, annual holiday party, continuing education, Remodelers Tour, Builders, Bags & Brews, and Studs, Struts & Stilettos. One of her biggest accomplishments was receiving the 2008 Membership Growth Award from the Builders Association of MN. Rebekah is currently a member of the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) where she participates in both the Membership Committee and WIC (Women In Construction) Week Committee. In her spare time she enjoys playing a good game of euchre, volleyball with friends, kayaking and biking with her husband Chris, and entertaining at "the Ridge".