editor's note



EACH AUGUST MY FAMILY TRAVELS NORTH AND EAST TO A WONDERFUL RESORT ON LAKE HURON ABOUT TWO HOURS NORTH OF TORONTO. My wife and kids love it—there are camp activities, swimming (lake and pool), miniature golf, boating, movies and live shows in the evening, good food, and great relaxation (check out the live cam at **www.delawana.com** and maybe you'll spot me on the dock). Two years ago I even learned how to juggle!

Unfortunately, most of the drive from Chicago to Honey Harbour is pretty boring, with one notable exception. We usually cross into Canada from Port Huron, Mich., which gives us the opportunity to see not just one,

but two, Prize Winning Bridges.

The original Blue Water Bridge won an honorable mention in the AISC/NSBA Prize Bridge Competition back in 1938. Designed by Modjeski, Masters and Case, the cantilever truss main bridge was fabricated by American Bridge Co. and is still in service. However, as traffic



increased it became obvious that more lanes were needed. The solution six decades after the original Blue Water Bridge opened was to place a new bridge next to the old, thereby doubling the amount of traffic that could be handled. Amazingly, this new bridge, a continuous tied arch with box girder approaches, was also designed by Modjeski & Masters. And this new bridge won a prize bridge award in 1990. (According to the jurors it was a "classic concept of semi-through arch in a modern, simple and clean design...side by side technologies, 60 years apart...elegant long-span structure.")

Since the Prize Bridge Awards began in 1928, AISC and the National Steel Bridge Alliance have honored around 900 bridges. And while we have photos of most of the bridges when they first opened, we don't have current images. I volunteered to take a year's sabbatical and travel around the country snapping pictures, but apparently neither my wife nor my boss thought much of that idea.

Instead, we're asking MSC readers to help out. You can visit www.steelbridges. org/bridgewinners to get a list of all the bridges that have been honored over the years. Take a picture of a bridge near your home or office (or one you see on your family vacation) and e-mail it to Tasha O'Berski at

oberski@aisc.org. We'll post all of the pictures at www.flickr.com/people/nsba_prize_bridge_award_winners for everyone to enjoy.

SCOTT MELNICK
EDITOR

P.S. Have you made your plans for SteelDay on September 18? This is a great opportunity to tour a fabrication facility, check out a steel mill, or see the galvanizing process up close. To find a SteelDay event near you, visit www.aisc.org/steelday.



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