



America Society of Civil Engineers Tennessee Section

2015 — WINTER NEWSLETTER

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President's Note

Thanks for reading the first TN Section newsletter of the year! In this newsletter, we have many articles that you will find interesting. Tennessee resident, Robert Ewing, has been made an ASCE Fellow, which is a great honor. Read about his career.

Additionally, we have the reports from the five Tennessee ASCE branches. What do I get out of reading these reports? You may ask. I find that reading the reports gives me ideas of projects that I can do in my own Branch and inspires me to see what we can do locally in the context of what is done around the State. I especially like the description of the professional talks held in the other Branches. Often speakers are willing to travel, so an interesting speaker may be willing to go to your Branch to give their talk. If you would like a talk on storm water quality, let me know and I'll give a talk in your Branch.

I had started to write about why someone should join ASCE, but I figured that everyone reading this would already be an ASCE member. I often speak to groups to encourage people to become ASCE members. I give my reasons, but there are probably many reasons that I have not considered. Write to me and let me know one reason why someone should join ASCE. Look in the next newsletter to see if your reason is listed. As a bonus, I will also answer the question about the difference between an ASCE Branch, Section and Region.

Until the 2nd Quarter Newsletter or until I see you at a Branch meeting....

Sincerely,
Thomas B. Lawrence, PE
President, Tennessee Section
tomlawrence@bellsouth.net

Upcoming Events

⇒ May 6—Geotechnical Engineering Technology & Info Transfer (Info Page 5)

West Tennessee Branch Report

The Board meeting of Friday, September 12, 2014 was convened and a quorum was present. The previous month's minutes were approved and details for the September Kickoff Meeting were finalized. Topics and speakers for the upcoming year were discussed, as well as attendance at the upcoming Tennessee Engineering Conference (TEC). This was the last meeting for the Branch's 2013-2014 board. In early September, the election of Branch leadership was completed and new officers were installed at the September Kickoff Meeting.

The Branch meeting, referred to as the Kickoff Meeting, was held the evening of September 18, 2014 at the Racquet Club of Memphis. Approximately 57 people attended, including 13 students. Representatives of the student chapters of Christian Brothers University (CBU), University of Memphis (UofM), and University of Tennessee Martin (UT Martin) were all presented with checks from the Section and the Branch. The local branch of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) was presented with funds raised from the 2014 Golf Tournament. After the Life Member recognition, newly elected officers were installed, as noted below. Wes Goodnight was presented with a gift in honor of service. Jennifer Lloyd, Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Design Division Director, and Whitney Sullivan, TDOT Transportation Manager, spoke regarding TDOT current projects and updates.

President	Nicole Craven
Vice President	Matt Odom
Secretary	Larkin Myers
Director	Doug Dietz
Director	Gene McGinnis
Director	Drew Cohn

The Board meeting of Friday, October 10, 2014, was convened with a quorum present. Topics of discussion were approval of the previous month's minutes, the details for the next branch meeting, lining out the dates for board and branch meetings for the next year, and discussing speakers for the Order of the Engineer Luncheon. Reports from attendees of the Region 4 meeting in Newport News, Virginia, as well as the TEC in Murfreesboro were provided. Young Members (YM) Group reported on planned activities including a canoe trip on the Wolf River and a tailgate at Tiger Lane. Student Chapters reported on preparation for the Deep South Competition and social events including a Halloween Party.

The October Branch meeting was held on Thursday October 16, 2014. The featured speaker was Max Shilstone of Clean Line Energy who discussed the development of a transmission line powered by wind energy planned to extend from Oklahoma to Memphis. Approximately 25 members attended.

"In early September, the election of Branch leadership was completed and new officers were installed at the September Kickoff Meeting."

West Tennessee Branch Report (cont.)

The Board meeting of Friday, November 14, 2014, was convened with a quorum present.

Topics of discussion were approval of the previous month's minutes, the details for the next branch meeting, a change of venue for next year's Kickoff Meeting, ASCE 2015 Regions 1, 2, 4 & 5 Workshop for Section & Branch Leaders, Legislative Fly-In, and discussing speakers for the Order of the Engineer Luncheon. The YM Group planned to send Evan Boulanger as the YM representative to the 2015 ERYMC. Student Chapters at CBU and UofM were preparing for their annual fundraiser Grapes for Geeks.

The November Branch meeting was held on Thursday November 20, 2014. The featured speaker was Bob Pitts of Pickering who discussed the Shelby Farms Heart of the Park project. Approximately 25 members attended and ASCE swag was given away as a door prize.

The Board meeting of Friday, December 12, 2014, was convened with a quorum present. Topics of discussion were approval of the previous month's minutes, the details for the next branch meeting in January, member outreach, and Construction. Brad Davis and Stephen Edwards from EWB met with the Board to discuss the EWB process and request continued support via the Golf Tournament proceeds. The executive members of the Board arranged an offline meeting to discuss plans for the Order of the Engineer. The Student Chapters reported election of new officers for 2015 at CBU and a new president at UofM. The YM Group reported that they would not be submitting any entries for Daniel V. Terrell Paper.

No December Branch meeting was held.

Knoxville Branch Report

The Knoxville Branch of the Tennessee Section met three times in the last quarter. Branch meetings are held the second Tuesday of the each month but were adjusted due to holiday conflicts.

On November 18, 2014, the Knoxville Branch held our monthly luncheon at the Oak Ridge Civic Center in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The speaker was Ms. Kaye Graybeal, with the Knoxville-Knox Metropolitan Planning Commission. Ms. Graybeal is the Historic Preservation Planner for the MPC, and she presented the topic of how and why historic district zoning and the design review process works. We heard about the decisions behind preservation strategies ranging from historic house relocation to complete replacement of commercial facades.

On December 10th, 2013, the Knoxville Branch held our monthly luncheon at the office of Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon. The presentation was "Status of Transportation projects within Tennessee" by Mr. Steve Borden, PE of Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). Mr. Borden discussed on-going projects, planned future projects, funding challenges and a potential alternate source of funding for transportation projects. Mr. Borden also discussed a different approach to partnering with communities based on the "return on investment" for potential projects. Mr. Borden is the TDOT Director/Assistant Chief Engineer for Region 1 which covers the Knoxville and Upper East Tennessee area of the state.

On January 27, 2015, our monthly meeting was held in Knoxville at Buddy's Banquet Hall. The discussion was given by Dr. Ed Burdette from the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Burdette will discuss "Six Decades of Civil Engineering at the University of Tennessee". Dr. Burdette discussed Where We've Been, Where We Are, and How We Got There. Dr. Burdette discussed the department of Civil Engineering and how it changed under each different department head - an era by era discussion of how the Department changed during his time at the University. Dr. Burdette is the recent recipient of the Dr. Peter G. Hoadley Outstanding Educator Award.

Holston Branch Report

“This year, Brian Johnson, was selected for this honor.”

The Branch would like to thank Modular Wetlands for hosting our members on November 12th at the Bristol Public Library. Members were given information about their versatile biofilter that is on the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality’s Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse list of approved treatment units with a 50% removal rating. 1 PDH was given for the presentation.

The Branch would also like to thank Branch members, George Cross with Foundation Systems Engineering, and Jennifer Moore with Thompson & Litton, for representing the Holston Branch at the City of Bristol, Tennessee’s special Planning Commission meeting in October. The City reached out to the Branch to help educate some of the non-technical members of the Planning Commission and community members in attendance on the engineering challenges of designing on Steep Slope Terrains. Jennifer spoke about the overall challenges with site design, and George was able to speak directly about some of the Geotechnical challenges of Bristol, Tennessee.

Each year, Headquarters asks the Branch President to nominate one of our members who go the extra mile to promote Civil Engineering to students in K-12. This year, Brian Johnson, was selected for this honor. Brian Johnson of Qk4, has been an instrumental founding member of the Scouts E-Week committee and actively promotes Civil Engineering in various K-12 schools within Bristol, Virginia and Tennessee. Brian also plays a rather active role in promoting Civil Engineering among the Sequoia Council of Boy Scouts and among several Girl Scout Troops in the area. If you are interested in promoting Civil Engineering through school outreaches, remember that we do have Bridge Kits and some free items (i.e. ASCE bookmarks, and pencils), available to Branch members to use.

All of the latest Branch events can be found on the website calendar at www.asce-holston.org. If you would like additional information about our branch or upcoming meetings please contact us at asce.holston@gmail.com (goes to the current President).

TNSAVE Report

The Tennessee Structural Assessment and Visual Evaluation (TNSAVE) Coalition is a group of professional organizations whose objective is to help the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) develop and maintain a post-disaster building inspector program. TNSAVE serves TEMA and the State of Tennessee to identify and recruit, train and organize, and mobilize building inspectors following a disaster.

Check out the website at www.tnsave.org for more information or to sign up.

Region 4 Branch Report



The ASCE Board of Direction (BOD) met in Miami, FL on January 8, 2015 as part of the Multi-Regional Leadership Conference where Tennessee was well represented by Section and Branch officers from many of our branches. Additionally, Younger Member leaders and Student Chapter officers were also in attendance. Items presented included an update on the society's new website which was launched at the end of 2014. Additional enhancements will be launched in phases later this year. The ASCE sponsored IMAX movie, DREAM BIG!, will be completed in 2016. The BOD nominating committee voted for two nominees for President-Elect of ASCE: Tom Walther, PE and Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE. Electronic voting will be held between May 1 and June 1, 2015.

Region 4 is looking for persons interested in serving in the "appointed" governor position on the board of governors. The three year term of office will begin on October 1, 2015. If interested, please send your ASCE resume to David Peterson, Region 4 Director by April 15, 2015. His email is dpeterson@rkk.com

The annual ASCE Fly-In to Washington, DC on March 24 & 25, 2015 and several members from Tennessee will be in attendance. The Region 4 Spring meeting will be in Little Rock, AR on April 17 & 18, 2015. This meeting is open to the Governor's from all 8 states plus delegates from each Section and Branch. If you would like to attend the meeting as an official delegate, please contact you Branch President to see what opportunities are still available.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Region 4 Board of Governors as your Tennessee representative. Please feel free to contact me about any issues you may have concerning ASCE at the local, state, regional or society level. As Governor, I am serving as your bridge between the Section and the Region 4 Board. You may contact me via email at ted_kniazewycz@gspnet.com.

Geotechnical Engineering Technology & Info Transfer

—Save the Date—

May 6, 2015 at One Century Place Conference Center in Nashville, Tennessee!

Three Nationally Known Speakers

Get a glimpse of business and technical issues from around the country from three prominent national geotechnical leaders

Hand-Selected Presentations From Each Region of the State

Geo-professional issues vary widely across the state and presentations representative of each of the four major regions will be included to highlight those unique challenges and engineering solutions.

Geotechnical Business Leader Roundtable (by Invitation Only)

An open discussion of the challenges to the BUSINESS of geotechnical consulting led by the national president of the GBA (Geoprofessional Business Association)

Exceptional Value

You can't afford to miss this opportunity for technical content and statewide networking. You'll want to send your entire staff! 7 PDHs will be offered.

http://www.meetatcenturyplace.com/files/one_century_place_brochure_8_1_2x14.pdf

Nashville Branch Report

New officers began their roles with the Nashville Branch in October. Dustin Scruggs remained as the Treasurer. Mario Gloriosso stepped down as Secretary, leaving an opening. Blake Turner was elected as the Vice President and Kevin McAlister was elected as the President-Elect. Patrick Kiser was President-Elect and was set to become the Branch President. However, Patrick has moved away from the Nashville area and Eric Gardner remained as the Branch President and Monica Sartain remained as Past President for another year. We held our regular Branch lunch meeting in October and the presentation focused on the Center Hill Dam. The speaker was Brad Long with the US Army Corp of Engineers. Also at the October lunch meeting, Nitaya Chayangkura was elected as the Branch Secretary. The Younger Members group hosted a service project in October; the Cooper Creek stream cleanup.

In November, we kicked off the month with the School of Rock Seminar hosted by the Tennessee Concrete Pipe Association. Attendees participated in the seminar and were able to earn 6 pdhs. The money raised by the seminar will be used for our Scholarship Fund. The Vanderbilt University Student Chapter hosted the November Branch Meeting on their Campus. Ron Gobbell and Michelle Barbero from Gobell Hays presented on the new Sounds Ballpark. We also hosted the Branch Poker Tournament in November. Even though we didn't end up raising money toward the Scholarship Fund with the event, it was still a successful social event. The Younger Member group sponsored a Tailgating Party at the Tennessee Titans' Monday night football game on November 17th. Professional Service Industries, Inc. (PSI) graciously hosted the event and provided the main dish while the ASCE Younger Members provided sides and non-alcoholic drinks.

In December, there was no Branch meeting. Instead members were encouraged to spend time with their families and give back during the holidays. On Saturday, December 13th, members participated in our annual Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. Volunteers assisted in sorting and organizing gifts that were to be later delivered to those that would otherwise receive nothing during the holiday season.

Our Branch continues to hold regular monthly meetings which are typically the third Thursday of the month and Board meetings are the following Wednesday. Everyone is encouraged to visit our website at www.nashvilleasce.org to learn more about the Branch's upcoming events and activities.

Chattanooga Branch Report

The primary focus of the Chattanooga Branch is to continue and build on our monthly program. Over the year, this program consists of eight technical presentations, two social events, and participation in E-week and the annual Section meeting. We recently changed the monthly meeting location to The Chattanooga Hotel, and this has been received favorably and resulted in an attendance boost. Monthly events for the 4th quarter of 2014 were:

- ◇ Crystal Piper, Manager of Hamilton County's Water Quality Program, spoke to our group about the County's approach to implementing the new runoff reduction requirements.
- ◇ In November, we heard from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) ASCE students on their plans and support needs for the upcoming ASCE Southeast Student Conference, which is coming to UTC in March 2015.
- ◇ In December, we held our annual holiday social (joint event with TSPE and ACEC). We again collected Toys for Tots and set a new record with 14 boxes donated!

"The primary focus of the Chattanooga Branch is to continue and build on our monthly program."



December Holiday Social

A new slate of officers was welcomed in September, and the new group is engaged in making our local branch bigger and better for 2015. The goals identified for this year include:

- ◇ Continuing our monthly program
- ◇ Awarding scholarships to civil engineering students at UTC (none were awarded last year due to no applicants)

Nashville Branch Report

- ◇ Supporting UTC with the Southeast Student Conference in March (more than 1,000 students will be coming here to compete in 15 different civil engineering related competitions, including concrete canoe and steel bridge)
- ◇ Reinstating a Nominating Committee to support nominations for E-week and annual Section awards
- ◇ Participating more frequently in TN, regional, and national ASCE events
- ◇ Donating time to a local engineering cause and/or starting a fundraiser



New Branch Officers: Back L to R: Will Witcher (VP), Don Warrington (Asst. Treasurer), Andrew Romanek (President)
Front L to R: Maria Price (Secretary) and Ben Byard (Treasurer)

Tennessee Section Officers and Committee Chairs

Josh Corum TN Section Past-President

Thomas B. Lawrence TN Section President

Brandie Cookston TN Section President-Elect

Ashley Smith TN Section Vice-President

Ted Kniazewycz TN Section Treasurer

Sandra Knight TN Section Secretary

Matt Caskey Awards Chair

Chris Triplett Engineering Management Discipline Chair

Alvin Cook Environmental Discipline Chair

Vanessa Bateman Geotechnical Discipline Chair

Ray Tant Government Affairs Liaison

Ken Berry History and Heritage Chair

Ashley Smith Student Discipline Chair

Z John Ma Structural Discipline Chair

Joe Deering Transportation Discipline Co-Chair

Brian Reynolds Transportation Discipline Co-Chair

Clint Camp SAVE Coalition Representative

Eric Gardner Membership Chair

Monica Sartain Report Card Chair

Ashley Smith Website Manager

Ashley Smith Younger Member Chair

Mark Harrison EWB Liaison



Check us out on the web:

<http://tnasce.org/>