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- Ashley T. Smith, PE**  
President Elect
- Helen S. Hennon, PE**  
Vice President
- Sandra Knight, PE**  
Secretary
- Ted A. Kniazewycz, PE**  
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- Thomas B. Lawrence, PE**  
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**QUICK LINKS**

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- Vanessa Bateman, PE**  
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- Ray Tant, PE**  
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- Ken Berry, PE**

Greetings!

The Tennessee Section has had a very busy and productive year so far. The Tennessee Section, led by Monica Sartain, is currently in the process of updating our Tennessee Report Card for Infrastructure. Monica has assembled a diverse group of volunteers from across the state to help with the update. The Infrastructure Report Card is one of ASCE's most valuable outreach tools. In the coming months, we will provide more details about this effort.

Our section and branch leadership attended the Multi-Region Leadership Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in February. This conference provides our section and branch leaders with the Society's resources. The attendees also had the opportunity to network with other ASCE members from across the country.

Planning of the 2016 Tennessee Engineers Conference is already underway. We will be holding this year's event in Nashville at the Music City Center on September 14 through 16. This event provides a wide variety of Professional Development Hours and multiple networking opportunities for exhibitors, presenters and volunteers. If you would like to present, sponsor or participate in the event planning, please contact me.

If you have any questions or would like to get more involved with our initiatives, please contact me.



Brandie C. Cookston, PE, CPESC, CPSWQ, M.ASCE  
CDM Smith

President, ASCE Tennessee Section

Royal Colonial Boundary of 1665  
National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark  
Plaque Dedication  
Lake Barkley Resort Park Lodge  
May 20, 2015  
11:00 AM Central

Join us for the dedication of the bronze plaque recognizing the Royal Colonial Boundary of 1665. The landmark, officially named in 1985, represents the boundary between Virginia and North Carolina and between Kentucky and Tennessee. This is the second of two plaques recognizing this Civil Engineering achievement. The first plaque has been dedicated and is located at Cumberland Gap National Historic Park.

History and Heritage Chair

**Ashley Smith, PE**  
 Student Discipline Chair  
 Website Manager  
 Younger Member Chair

**Z John Ma, PE**  
 Structural Discipline Chair

**Brian Reynolds, PE**  
 Transportation Discipline Co-Chair

**Eric Gardner, PE**  
 Membership Chair

**Monica Sartain**  
 Report Card Chair

**Wesley Goodnight**  
 Student Discipline Co-Chair

**Branch Presidents**

**Maria Price, PE**  
 Chattanooga

**Jennifer J. Moore, PE**  
 Holston

**Sam Mayes, PE**  
 Knoxville

**Kevin McAlister, PE**  
 Nashville

**Matt Odom, PE**  
 West Tennessee

**Branch Websites**

[Chattanooga](#)

[Holston](#)

[Knoxville](#)

[Nashville](#)

[West Tennessee](#)

The dedication ceremony will begin at 11:00 AM followed by lunch at the lodge. A dining room has been reserved for attendees. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Cost: The cost of lunch if you choose to eat at the lodge.

**About the Landmark:**

The Royal Colonial Boundary of 1665 was decreed by England's King Charles II to demarcate his American colonies. It provided a survey from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River along 36 degrees, 30 minutes north latitude. The boundary now serves to divide Virginia from North Carolina and Kentucky from Tennessee.



The survey, completed in five stages, was one of the first times a surveyed line was so long that the curve of the Earth had to be taken into consideration. It drew attention both to the importance and to the difficulty of cadastral surveying (to delimit and identify property lines) and geodetic surveying (in which the form and size of the earth are considered). It demonstrated some of the first attempts to locate an exact geographical position on the ground.

The 1665 line of 36 degrees, 30 minutes north latitude was recognized as the de facto dividing line between the North and the South in the Missouri Compromise of 1820.

**Chattanooga Branch Report**

The primary focus of the Chattanooga Branch has been to continue and build on our monthly program. While continuing this effort, the Branch is also strengthening student chapter relations and having a more active role in the community. Over the year, this program consisted of seven technical presentations including a day long workshop, two social events, two community service events, participation in SE Regional Student Conference and participation in E-week and the annual Section meeting. Monthly events for the 4th quarter of 2015 were:

- In October, Kurt Greene with Arrow G. Consulting spoke about Communication & Feedback: Tools You Can Use.
- Also in October, several members participated in the annual Tennessee River Rescue (see photo below).
- November consisted of our first and wildly successful School of Rock coordinated by the Tennessee Concrete Pipe Association in conjunction with ASCE raising \$805 for the ASCE Chattanooga Scholarship Fund while providing participants with 6 PDHs.
- In December, we held our annual Holiday Social (joint event with TSPE and ACEC) along with our annual Toys for Tots drive

ASCE Chattanooga Branch sponsored and played an active role in the annual Tennessee River Rescue event on October 17th. The SPAG grant that our branch received was used for radio spots promoting the importance of civil engineers and introduction of children to civil engineering (promoted asceville.org). Dr. Ignatius Formunung was selected as the 2015 ASCE Outstanding Faculty Advisor for his work and dedication to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga ASCE Student Chapter.

Around the time of installation, the incoming Vice President was relocated,

so a revised slate of officers (see below) were elected at the October meeting for the next year with terms ending after the annual 2016 conference. The new group is engaged in making our local branch bigger and better for 2016. The goals identified for this year include:

- Build on our monthly technical program
- Strengthen relationships between other engineering organizations (TSPC, ACEC) and TN Association of Professional Surveyors SE Chapter
- Increase community involvement: TN River Rescue, K-12 Outreach (ACE Mentor Program), E-Week
- Increase membership & participation (Create Membership Committee & encourage Membership Champions)
- Participate more frequently in TN, regional, and national ASCE events (Multi-Region Leadership Conference & Fly-In)
- Strengthen relationships with the UTC student chapter while improving transitioning membership (pizza party)
- Create social media presence (Facebook, LinkedIn)
- Revamp the Branch website

#### Revised Slate of Officers 2015 - 2016

President	Maria Price
Vice President	Lukas Salyer
Secretary	Sarah Fick
Treasurer	Ben Byard
Past President	Andrew Romanek

### **Holston Branch Report**

The Branch would like to thank everyone who participated in our recent member survey. 19 members responded to the 10 question online survey, via SurveyMonkey, which will help provide feedback for future meetings, topics, speakers, and activities. Survey results indicate that approximately 25 percent of the respondents had never attended a branch meeting, 75 percent are looking for PDH opportunities, and half of the respondents are looking for social networking opportunities. As a result of the survey the branch is planning an after work social event in the upcoming future.

On Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> the branch held a lunch meeting at the J Henry Kegley meeting room at the Bristol Public Library. Scott Barrentine with the Tennessee Valley Authority presented "Sinkhole Repair of the Boone Dam Foundation" Scott provided the branch with background information regarding the sinkhole that was discovered at the base of the dam and discussed the TVA plans to repair the Dam.

The branch held a lunch meeting on November 11th in Johnson City at Beef O'Bradys. Dan Carrier with Parsons Brinckerhoff presented "Design and Construction of the Cooper River Bridge." Dan discussed the many project challenges he had as project manager of this \$531 million cable stay bridge in Charleston, SC. The challenges included bridge span length, height, and width, foundation conditions, ship collision rock islands, high seismic zone, hurricane wind area, and the accelerated project schedule.

All of the latest Branch events can be found on the [website](#) calendar. If you would like additional information about our branch or upcoming meetings please contact us [asce.holston@gmail.com](mailto:asce.holston@gmail.com).

### **Knoxville Branch Report**

#### Knoxville Branch Field trip to Sherman Dixie

On October 8, 2015, Sherman Dixie hosted the Branch for lunch and a

Lenoir City plant tour. The plant was manufacturing 8' diameter "dry poured" pipe sections that day. 36 participants, including consulting engineers, municipal and ORNL engineers, and TDOT officials from both Knoxville and Chattanooga enjoyed seeing the process by which concrete products are made and the process used to ensure quality. The plant educated us as to the way work orders are used, the types and frequency of inspections and certifications, and the different types of products made at the Lenoir City Plant and other Sherman Dixie Plants across the nation.

#### ASCE Younger Member Group Meets

The new ASCE Younger Members Group met for the first time on November 19, 2015 at the Bearden Beer Market. 16 attendees showed up for this social and networking event, sponsored by Cannon & Cannon. The Younger Members Group is open to all engineers and E.I.'s 35 years old and younger (as well as college students), with a goal of creating social and service events, with occasional educational opportunities, to connect young engineers in Knoxville and East Tennessee. Future events are being planned for early 2016! Be on the lookout for information regarding a Knoxville Ice Bears or UT Basketball game in February, a river clean-up service project in April, and a Tennessee Smokies game over the summer. Sponsorship from the Engineering Community for events is welcome and needed!

#### Helen Hennon receives Past President Award

At the November meeting, current Branch President Sam Mayes presented Helen Hennon with the award for outstanding leadership and service and for being the 2014 Knoxville Branch President. This is the second time that Ms. Hennon has served as Branch President serving in 2012 as well. During Ms. Hennon's last term as president she was able to found a Younger Member's Group, work with the ASCE Society level to make the Knoxville Branch a website, originate the Branch a first quarterly newsletter, and organize a Branch field trip. Ms. Hennon is continuing to work with the Younger Members Group and help prepare the quarterly newsletters as well as provide guidance in her role as past president.

#### Knoxville Branch New Website

The Knoxville Branch has created a new [website](#) which is a major milestone in the history of the group. Becky Rehorn of member company, Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, has been impetus in getting this new site ready for the new growth of our organization.

## **Nashville Branch Report**

For the Nashville branch, the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015 was a time of transition, recruiting and fun. Typically new officer terms begin on October 1<sup>st</sup>, with the Statewide meeting in Murfreesboro being our transition point. As new incoming branch president, I was sworn in at the statewide meeting. Our other new Nashville Branch officers were officially sworn in as part of our October branch meeting program on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### 2015-2016 officers included:

Kevin McAlister	- Branch President
Blake Turner	- President Elect
Eric Gardner	- Past President
Clint Camp	- Vice President
Dustin Scruggs	- Treasurer
Nitaya Chayangkura	- Secretary

So far in our first quarter working together in our new roles, the officers have not missed a beat. The leadership team has been operating smoothly, and

we hope revisit some of the branch goals we set last summer to gauge our performance.

Below are some of our branch events featured for this quarter:

- We had a very good turnout (70 attendees) for our October branch meeting at the TEC. Our speaker was Steve Casey with CEC and his topic was a local stream bank stabilization project that was initiated in response to the 2010 Middle Tennessee flood.
- The Nashville Branch was well represented (8 members) at the SWE (Society of Women Engineers) National Invent It! Build It! Convention in the Music City Center on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Our team helped introduce Middle School aged girls to simple engineering concepts like water filtration and earth retaining walls. Over one hundred girls stopped by our two tables to get their hands dirty and participate.



**Pictured: Chelsea Hannan (far left) helps three middle school students construct an MSE wall from paper in our retaining wall module.**

- Several Nashville Branch officers and members made a recruiting visit to the student chapter of Lipscomb University in November. Our message to the students was simple. An ASCE membership will enhance your career development. We also encouraged them make their professional home with us at the Nashville Branch by transitioning into our YM group if they chose to work in the Nashville area once they graduate.
- One final successful event this quarter was our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Nashville Branch Poker tournament on December 1<sup>st</sup>. This social event had about 25 players and was hosted at the office of SSR. Members and a few non-members had a great time socializing and networking right before the Christmas holiday season kicked into high gear.

A link to our Nashville Branch website can be found here:

<http://www.nashvilleasce.org>. We are also making a conscious effort to utilize all of our social media accounts for branch event reminders and recognition.

### West Tennessee Branch Report

The Board convened on Friday, September 11, October 9, November 13 and December 11, 2015. Election results for 2015-2016 are summarized below.

President	Matt Odom	<u>Younger Member Group</u>	
Vice President	Larkin Myers	Chair	Greg Carrico
Secretary	Duncan Adrian	Vice-Chair	Michael Lamport

Director	Evan Boulanger	Secretary	McKenzie Shankle
Director	Russ Brasfield		
Director	Wes Goodnight		

The September 2015 Branch meeting ("Kickoff" for 2015-2016) was held the evening of Tuesday September 22, 2015 at the University of Memphis Holiday Inn. Sixty six (66) members attended, including 27 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 2015 Golf Tournament. New officers were installed. Nicole Craven was presented with gifts in honor of her service as President during the past year. This year's Kickoff speaker was Mr. Tom Needham, the County Engineer for Shelby County. Mr. Needham discussed the nationwide competition being conducted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for grants to help communities be more resilient after national disasters and the team established, Resilient Shelby, to pursue the grants.

The Branch typically meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month with presentations on various engineering topics. The remainder of our meetings this quarter included:

- **October 15, 2015** - Speaker: Josh Whitehead, Planning Director for the Memphis & Shelby County Office of Planning & Development. Approximately 27 members attended.
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- **November, 19, 2016** - Speaker: Dr. Ashraf Elsayed, PhD, PE, of Geotechnology, Inc. discussed the successful seismic retrofit/renovation of the Memphis Pyramid into the Bass Bro Shop and included information about seismic considerations for the I-40 / I-240 Interchange project. 34 members attended.

No December Branch meeting was held; however, the ASCE Branch Membership was invited to the December SAME Holiday Luncheon on December 14, 2015.

Jackson, TN Engineering Lunch meeting Presentations included:

9/29/2015	Michael Herr from EJ
10/27/2015	Paul Gavin and Sandy Collins-Camargo from ADS