



Spring 2016

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Greetings!

I am excited to report that the Tennessee Section of ASCE had record attendance at this year's ASCE Government Relations Fly-In in Washington, DC. Tennessee was represented by Ray Tant, Monica Sartain, Lucas Salyer, Janey Camp, Drew Cohn, and myself. While at our nation's capital, we visited all of Tennessee's Representatives and Senators to discuss the issues important to us in the civil engineering profession.

Across the state we celebrated Engineers Week in February. The ASCE West Tennessee hosted ASCE President-Elect Ms. Norma Jean Mattei, PE, PhD, and the Chattanooga Branch hosted Brian Pallash, ASCE Managing Director, Government Relations and Infrastructure Initiatives.

The Infrastructure Report Card for Tennessee is currently in draft form thanks to the continued efforts of Monica Sartain and the volunteers throughout the state. The Report Card will be complete in late summer; we will continue to provide updates on the Tennessee's Report Card Update.

The 2016 Tennessee Engineers Conference planning has continued, for this year's event in Nashville at the Music City Center on September 14 through 16. This event will provide a wide variety of Professional Development Hours and multiple networking opportunities for exhibitors, presenters and volunteers, including a new social event on Wednesday afternoon in conjunction with early registration on September 14. 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, 2016
11:00 AM Central**

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Branch Websites

[Chattanooga](#)

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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.

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. *Note: If you are planning on attending, please email [Jon Keeling](#).*

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.

Save the Date!

2016 TN Engineers' Conference

(ASCE, TSPE, and ACEC)



Date: September 14-16

Location: Music City Center, Nashville

There will be five educational tracks, with something for everyone. Plan to get your required professional development hours (at least 12) in a concentrated and cost-effective manner. How's that for value added? Watch for more detailed information next month.

You will also have the opportunity to network with engineers, business owners, product experts, and service providers!

For room reservations call or go online to the [Hyatt Place Nashville](#) or call 615-687-9995 by Tuesday, August 15, 2016, and ask for group rate, which is \$219 per night (plus tax, of course!). Use the group

code "2016 Engineers Conference" when booking your reservation. We have negotiated a discounted hotel room rate and your patronage of this official hotel makes it possible for us to secure the space needed for the event at a greatly reduced cost.

Registration will be available at EventSpot in early June! A link will be provided for your convenience on all websites. The Brochure with the schedule of events, education and additional details will be posted and mailed.

Sign up now to sponsor or exhibit at this event, please email [Helen Hennon](mailto:Helen.Hennon) or call 865-689-1395, ext 4002. To download [Sponsor](#) and/or [Exhibitor](#) forms, follow the links provided.

2016 ASCE Fly-In

Once again several members of the Tennessee Section were able to participate in the annual ASCE Fly-in event in Washington DC and visit with our lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Each year the section has been able to send anywhere from 4 to 6 people to represent the regions of our state. It was a great feeling to return to DC this year having successfully been part in encouraging the development and passing of a five-year surface transportation bill finally getting funded after many years of meeting and discussions this with our lawmakers. Attending this event were Janey Smith Camp with Vanderbilt University, Drew Cohen, retired Army Corps of Engineers, Brandie Cookston with CDM Smith, Lukas Salyer with Forterra Building Products (formerly Sherman Dixie), Monica Sartain with Power Consulting Associates and Ray Tant with Shield Engineering Inc.

While in DC our members meet with both the Senate and House of representatives to discuss important issues related to our nations infrastructure. The event is a great opportunity to see the inner workings of our government and reinforces the importance of interacting on a one-on-one basis with both the lawmakers and their staffers. We are experts, and have a great opportunity to share our knowledge of the importance of maintaining our infrastructure as well as improving our waterways and airports.

This year the focus was on three key issues; the Water Resources Development Act 2016, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization. Key points shared related to WRDA were to authorize a dam rehabilitation program, expand the Public-Private Partnership (P3) Pilot Program created in WRRDA 2014 and authorize an additional P3 new start in FY17, fund the National Dam Safety Program, fund and implement the National Levee Safety Program, fully appropriate funds for the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF), and fund the Water Infrastructure Financing Program.

As a result of the Flint, Michigan disaster the Water Resources Development Act 2016 was authored by both members of the Senate and House and its key points were to fund the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, fund the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, fund the Water Infrastructure Financing Program and pass the Water Infrastructure Investment Trust Fund Act.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization was focused on several issues which included encouraging Congress to preserve the current firewalls to allow for full use of trust fund revenues for investment in the nation's aviation transportation system, Focus the Airport and Airway Trust Fund expenditures on capital improvement, use the Airport and

Airway Trust Fund for air traffic and airport maintenance and improvement and not used to pay for security, the Passenger Facilities Charges (PFCs) cap should be increased or eliminated to allow airports the flexibility to invest in their own facilities, maintain the use of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) of engineering services for funding through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and expand the use of QBS for engineering services to include projects funded through the use of PFCs.

As always, it is important that we remain active in the legislation and decision making that affects the lives of our membership as well as the health and well being of the general public that we serve as engineers.

Ray Tant, ASCE TN Section Government Affairs Liason

Chattanooga Branch Report

The Chattanooga Branch had an icy start to 2016 when weather cancelled the January meeting. Although we had no monthly meeting in February, Branch Past-President Andrew Romanek ensured we had great presence in Chattanooga for EWeek with Kickoff Luncheon Speaker: John C. Schroer, TDOT Commissioner. The Awards Banquet Keynote Speaker was Brian Pallasch- Director of ASCE Government Relations and Infrastructure Initiatives, and thanks to the efforts of our Nominating Committee, Jerry Hightower received the People to People award. The Branch awarded \$1500 scholarships to two UTC Students, Stephanie Flowers and Justin Rudder.

It was standing room only in March as an unprecedented number of attendees (several didn't RSVP) attended Andy Burran with AFS Foundation Repair's presentation: Maintaining Rigid Pavements Using Poly Foam.

Several members attended Engineers' Day on the Hill and 2 attended the Fly-In. Life Member Bill Hoyt is Chair of our new Life Member Committee and we sponsored a pizza party for the UTC Student Chapter to discuss benefits of membership after graduation.

The Branch is exploring a potential student chapter at Chattanooga State Community College and we now have the capability of accepting payments through Paypal. ASCE will be involved in the Chattanooga 2.0 Initiative, which is a community-wide initiative to improve academic excellence and career credentials in Hamilton County. We are also partnering with the City of Chattanooga and TAPS (TN Association of Professional Surveyors) for a Chattanooga Development Symposium this fall.

Holston Branch Report

The Branch would like to thank the Holston Branch of ASME for sponsoring the joint meeting at Rush Street in Kingsport on February 9th. Jason Carder with Mattern & Craig, and Hank Clabaugh with the City of Kingsport, discussed the "road diet" for a section of Center Street (SR-36), a four-lane major arterial serving approximately 16,000 vehicles per day, in the downtown area. Their study and implementation of the road diet based on operational and safety data was presented to the joint meeting.



Existing



Proposed

Based on the results of the last membership poll, the officers have been working to organize a social and networking opportunity for Branch. The Holston Branch Social / Networking Event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, between 7 pm and 9pm at the Foundation Event Facility (aka 620 State) in Bristol, Tennessee. Members are invited to bring a guest and RSVP by Friday, April 22nd by contacting Ron Crockett (rcrockett@btes.tv).

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.

Knoxville Branch Report

The first quarter of the year on January 26th began with a presentation about Risk and Financial Management for A & E Professionals. Presenters were Mr. Sam Mayes, P.E., and Mr. Chris Burl of Management Solutions. The meeting was at Calhoun's on the River in Knoxville and was well attended by over 40 people. The meeting was a joint meeting with ACEC.

On February 9th, Mr. Jeff Beckett (Senior Project Manager with Cannon & Cannon) and Ms. Dawn Michelle Foster (Director of Redevelopment for the City of Knoxville) presented "The Design Challenges for Suttree Park". Jeff and Dawn Michelle shared the challenges and rewards with the development of this exciting new park located in downtown Knoxville. The event was attended by approximately 45 ASCE Members.

Also on February 9th, the ASCE Younger Member Group attended the Knoxville Ice Bears hockey game against the Macon Mayhem in downtown Knoxville. The group had 18 people come out to see the Ice Bears beat the Mayhem 2-0. Several YMG members were selected to participate in a dance-off and an on-the-ice sled race between periods, displaying some hidden dance moves and athletic skills. The group was recognized over the public address system at the game. Thanks to Sherman Dixie for providing the tickets for this event.

On March 7th the Knoxville Branch had a joint meeting with the UT Knoxville Student Chapter to review competition projects prior to the annual ASCE Student Conference. The meeting was at the John Tickle Building on the UT Knoxville Campus, and was attended by about 20 Branch members, including several Younger Members. The students did a great job, and later placed 2nd overall in the competition.

On March 30th the Branch's annual Professional Civil Engineering Seminar was performed. Six Professional Development Hours were offered to attendees. Thirty-three people attended either the morning or afternoon session, or both. Topics and speakers included:

- Andy Powers, AIA, LEED AP - Aquisition of Campus Streets at UT and the Master Plan for the University of TN Campus

- Ken Barry, P.E. - Ethics and Social Ethics
- Al Hogan, P.E. - Proper Inspection and Evaluation of Reinforced Concrete Pipe
- Kevin Hon - Geophysics and Exploration: Complimenting Geotechnical, Environmental, and Transportation Investigations
- Becky Rehorn - How to use LinkedIn to its fullest extent.

Nashville Branch Report

The 1st quarter of 2016 was a busy one for the Nashville Branch. We were able to get the year started with a variety of events for our members to attend and serve.

January

Michael Skipper and his staff at the Nashville MPO office were featured.

They gave a presentation on the planning process for the future of Nashville Transit and the new nMotion plan that has been developed by the MPO office. We had over 90 attendees at this meeting (almost 100).

The Nashville Branch YM group also reported having 15 people register for their Spring PE Review course.

February

National Engineers Week was Feb. 21-27 and our Nashville Branch successfully planned and executed 4 large events.

1. The Annual Bowling Tournament (43 attendees) had another successful year. The event was held at the Donelson Strike and Spare and ten (10) teams participated. Over \$1000 was raised for our scholarship fund and a good time was had by all.

2. Once again the Nashville Branch hosted the Music City Bridge Competition (30 attendees) in 2016 and the event we very well. The event was held at the Vanderbilt LASIR (Laboratory for Systems Integrity & Reliability) facility. Once again, Glenciff High School took home the win with all three top bridges constructed by students from Glenciff. These students will go on to compete at the International Bridge Competition held in Chicago in May, and the Nashville Branch will be sponsoring them as well.

3. The School of Rock (72 attendees) sponsored by the Tennessee Concrete Pipe Association (TCPA) and Forterra Building Products (formerly Sherman Dixie) was extremely successful this year. Over \$7000 was raised directly from this event for our scholarship fund. This was a full day long technical program (6.5 PDHs) offered to our members for \$90 held at the TEC. (Photo below)



4. Our Younger Member group had a booth at Engineering Day at the

Adventure Science Center. They lead the way by setting up an ASCE booth, lead two hands-on activities (water filtration and paper retaining wall kits) and interacted with kids and parents interested in civil engineering. Special thanks to several student members from the Vanderbilt University chapter who came over to support the event.

5. We also had several members visit schools as part of our E-week outreach efforts. We received requests from five area schools with some requesting speakers for multiple classes or entire auditoriums of students.

March

The program speaker was Matt Richards with TDOT Environmental and he spoke to us about various environmental and ecological issues that affect the construction of so many projects statewide. We had over 70 attendees at the meeting.

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 West Tennessee Branch Board met January 15th, February 12th, and March 11th to discuss Branch business. The Branch hosted monthly meetings in Memphis for the membership on various topics including the Blue Stream Task Force on January 21st, Ethics and the Professional Engineer on February 23rd, and the Wolf River Greenway on March 17th. An engineering presentation was hosted in Jackson, TN on March 22nd with Paul Gavin / ADS presenting.

Ms. Norma Jean Mattei, PE, PhD, ASCE President-Elect presented on February 23rd and also participated in our Order of the Engineer Ceremony for Engineer's Week. She visited with each of the schools and student chapters within our branch (UT Martin, Christian Brothers University, University of Memphis) and went to breakfast to meet with the West TN Branch Board prior to the meeting.

Ms. Nicole Craven, PE was honored with the 2016 Featured Engineer Award by the Memphis Joint Engineers Council (MJEC). Congratulations!

Branch Director Drew Cohn participated in the ASCE 2016 Legislative Fly-In.

Duncan Adrian attended the 2016 Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders (WSBL) 2/12 and 2/13 in Pittsburgh.