March Meeting Notice
March 15, 2004

The March Speaker:
Stan Lowry
Boyle & Lowry, LLP.

Mr. Lowry will speak on a recent legal action between the City of Keller and one of its residents regarding residential construction and drainage standards.

Fort Worth Branch “pumping” out new meeting dates

Future Meeting Dates
(Mark your calendar!)

- March 15, 2004
- April 19, 2004
- May 17, 2004
- June 14, 2004
- July 19, 2004
- Sept. 20, 2004

ASCE Dates
(Mark your calendar!)

- Feb. 22-28
- Oct. 20-23
- National Engineer’s Week
- ACSE Conference and Expo, Baltimore

Texas Section Spring Meeting
April 22-24, 2004
South Padre Island, Texas
Well, the past year has been a busy one for the Forth Branch as we continue to grow and improve the services that we provide to you, our members. Before I go any further I really do need to thank Mark Assaad for doing a great job as 2002-2003 Branch President. The Branch Board members have had a number of difficult decisions to make over the past few years. With the introduction of the internet and e-mail, we found ourselves at a crossroads as to how best to communicate with our Branch members. It has taken us two long, hard years beginning with Curtis Beitel as Branch President, to determine that we needed to change with the times and incorporate the internet and e-mail into how we interact with our Branch members. Bringing our website back to life was an integral part of this plan. Two years ago, Marc Miller volunteered to be our first official Website Chairperson and he has brought new life to the website that was originally created by Shelly Hattan, back in 1995. Marc is doing a great job at keeping the website running and up-to-date on all the latest Branch activities.

One of the toughest decisions we faced was how to move forward with the monthly newsletters. Since E-mail has become a very convenient way of communicating, the move to electronic newsletters was a logical step. Our goal is to stay in touch with all of our members and as the cost of paper newsletters increase the choice to go to an electronic newsletter became an easier decision to make. In an effort to keep everyone informed of the Branch activities, the Board decided to create a bi-annual paper newsletter; which, if you are reading this, was successful. I am really looking forward to the upcoming year. We have a great slate of officers and I greatly appreciate their time and effort. Ronda Visintainer, our President-Elect, took on the responsibility of locating speakers for another year after we redefined the responsibilities of that position. Stephen Crawford, our Membership Chair, has already obtained 11 Life Membership certificates for 2004. Scott Berman, our Younger Member Chair, has been busy organizing activities and making sure that they are well documented in numerous ASCE publications and Marc Miller, our Website Chair, has brought advertising from the newsletter to the website. As you can see the Branch has some very dedicated volunteers and I’d like to thank all of our officers for donating their time to help make the Fort Worth Branch a branch that our members can be proud of.

I hope you all enjoy our Inaugural Bi-Annual Fort Worth Branch Newsletter!

Your President,

Chris Schnitger, P.E.
Teague Nall and Perkins, Inc. (TNP) is a professional civil engineering, surveying, and consulting firm that has been serving public and private entities in the North Texas area for 27 years. With over 95 employees, the firm currently has offices in Fort Worth, Dallas, and Denton. TNP has built a reputation for providing quality, responsive, personalized services to our clients. The firm currently acts in the capacity of City Engineer for 9 municipalities and 2 utility districts in the D/FW metroplex, and serves more than 75 other public sector clients on a project-by-project basis. Services offered include civil engineering, municipal consulting, transportation system infrastructure, drainage, water and wastewater systems, floodplains, structural design, surveying, site/land development, permitting, landscape architecture, golf course design, mapping/GIS services, vulnerability assessments, and information technology consulting.

Company Profile

• Serving the North Texas area since 1976.
• Strong background serving local municipalities, counties, and government entities.
• Full-service in-house survey division since 1995.
• Eleven (11) Principals with over 200 years of combined public sector engineering experience own and operate the company.
• Currently serving 75 public entities on a project-by-project basis and serving as City Engineer for nine (9) municipalities and two (2) utility districts throughout the D/FW metroplex.
• Staff of approximately 95 employees throughout three (3) offices.

TNP has produced several award-winning projects, including the civil design of Keller Town Center in Keller, Texas, which was chosen as a 2002 “Best of Texas” project under $20 million by Texas Construction magazine. TNP has also been named one of the “Best Civil Engineering Firms to Work For” in the United States by CE News Magazine, and was recently selected as #2 “Best Place to Work” among small businesses in the D/FW metroplex by the Dallas Business Journal.

FORT WORTH OFFICE: (817) 336-5773
FAX: (817) 336-2813 E-MAIL: ftw@tnp-online.com www.tnp-online.com
CMJ Engineering

CMJ Engineering, Inc. (CMJ) is a geotechnical engineering and construction testing company in Fort Worth, Texas. CMJ provides a specialty engineering consulting service focusing on soils and geology, foundation engineering, and related geotechnical and geological engineering. In addition, to providing a service to the construction clients, CMJ also provides observation/testing of the properties of soils, foundations, and pavements to check the compliance of these materials with construction specifications.

The overall mission of CMJ is to provide high quality geotechnical engineering services to clients, to serve the clients with timely and cost-effective services, to provide a profitable atmosphere to allow financial compensation for employees and the owner, and to provide an atmosphere for employee growth from the viewpoint of technical information, management skills, and marketing endeavors. CMJ is owned, operated, and managed by Charles M. Jackson, P.E. Other key personnel in the company are Mr. James A. McDaniel, E.I.T., Mr. Mr. Greg S. Lester, A.E.T., Mr. Steven S. Johnston, and Ms. Angie McCullough. Mr. Jackson specifically manages geotechnical engineering of the company. Messrs. McDaniel and Lester perform engineering and engineering testing, respectively. Mr. Johnston manages the construction materials testing department. Administrative Manager, Ms. Angie McCullough, coordinates internal office communications including human relations, payroll/accounting, and miscellaneous office administration.

CMJ focuses on providing consulting and testing services to clients in North Central Texas, particularly Tarrant County and surrounding counties. The majority of these clients include cities, counties, school districts, civil engineering firms, architects, developers, and construction companies.

◊ 7636 Pebble Drive ◊ Fort Worth, Texas 76118 ◊ www.cmjengr.com ◊

Frank W. Neal & Associates, Inc.

Frank W. Neal and Associates, Inc. is a full service structural engineering organization based in Fort Worth, Texas. Our philosophy is to provide the client with the foremost technical knowledge available, along with the personal service and communication required, to successfully take a project from its inception to its completion. Our engineers and technicians work closely with the client to assure each project’s success. The Basic Services we offer are Design and Construction Documents for New Structures, Renovation of Existing Structures, Evaluation/Investigation of Existing Structures, Construction Observation, Forensic Studies.

Frank W. Neal & Associates, Inc. is dedicated to excellence in the structural engineering profession. We place priority on responding to the client’s project requirement. The firm is a Texas registered corporation that has been in business since 1982. Frank W. Neal & Associates, Inc. attributes its growth from one engineer to 19 employees consisting of engineers, technicians and support staff to the diverse client base that we service today. The mission of Frank W. Neal & Associates, Inc. combines its greatest assets, its employees, with up-to-date engineering and emerging technology to produce documents in an efficient and timely manner. Frank W. Neal & Associates, Inc. has been recognized as “Outstanding Engineer” in 1998 by the American Subcontractors Association, Inc. The firm has also received the “President’s Award” in 2001 from the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The firm is also a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, National Federation of Independent Businesses, Building Officials Association of Texas, and International Conference of Building Officials.
A Message from your Chairman:

Welcome to February! The year is moving along. I hope everyone is doing well. I am diligently working to find and organize beneficial activities for our group. I still welcome any feedback from our members on events we have done, events to come, and events you would like to do. I am here to serve you and help our organization improve its members socially, mentally and professionally. I have been making contacts for potential field trips, and also have been trying to organize technical seminars for our group. I am looking at a tour of the High Five project in North Dallas that is proceeding at a record pace, and a tour of the East Jordan Iron Works Foundry in Ardmore, Oklahoma. I am also looking for any Younger Members that would like to make a technical presentation to our group. I call out to all of you for suggestions on these activities and would also like your response for attendance so I may determine if these events are feasible. I am still searching for Younger Members who would like to become more involved in ASCE by holding committee positions. Anyone interested, please contact me, Scott Berman at sberman@halff.com.

Announcements:

Congratulations to Mark Assaad, Fort Worth’s Edmund Friedman Young Engineer of the Year!

National Engineers Week - February 22 - 28, 2004
Watch for the Fort Worth Business Press issues coming later this week as well as the Fort Worth Star Telegram issue on Sunday, February 22nd for a special supplement.
If you or your firm is interested in advertising in either publication, please contact Michael Wellbaum, (817) 832-0746

Engineers Week Reception -- Tuesday, February 24, 2004, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm,
Petroleum Club (39th Floor): Reception to honor awardees along with an Order of the Engineer Ring Ceremony.
The ceremony will begin at 5:30, please register by contacting Daniel Stoutenburg, (817) 735-7300. The Ceremony is open to all who hold an engineering degree, licensed or not.

Engineers Week Banquet -- Saturday, February 28, 2004, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Mira Vista Country Club: Social time from 6 to 7 pm. All TSPE and ASCE Award Winners will be recognized. Dinner this year is an 8oz Filet Mignon with bordelaise sauce & sautéed mushrooms served with harvest salad and sun dried tomato vinaigrette, Duchess Potatoes, Harvest Vegetables and Desert. Cost is $40 per person

******* Corporate Tables are available - Sponsorships are still available*******
Contact Michael Wellbaum, (817) 832-0746 for reservations and sponsorships.

Congratulations Scott Berman!!
Scott recently received the was recognized as the recipient of ASCE's Zone III National Citizen Engineer of the Year Award. The Award was presented in recognition of the many community service projects performed by the Fort Worth Branch Younger Member Group.

ASCE President Pat Galloway presenting Scott Berman with Zone III Citizen Engineer of the Year Award in Chicago, February 14, 2004.
Younger Member News, Cont

**Mathcounts Volunteers Needed!**

Mathcounts is a mathematics competition open to junior high school age children. Volunteers are needed to proctor tests and grade exams for the “mathletes”. Mathcounts is supported by TSPE. This is a good opportunity to meet engineers from other disciplines while helping out the school children. Volunteers are needed:
Saturday February 21, at UTA, 8am to 1pm
Please let me know if you are interested!

**Golden Gloves Volunteers Needed!**

Ding, Ding, Ding!!! Are you ready to rumble!!! Our group has an opportunity to volunteer while being entertained at the same time. We have been asked to help with the Fort Worth Golden Gloves amateur boxing tournament.

There are two tournaments -
Regional: Feb. 25-28, and State: March 3-6. The Regional tournament has kids from the age of 7 up to 30 years old. The State tournament has all open fights and the ages range from about 16 to 30.

The tournaments are held at the John Justin Arena in the Will Rogers complex in Ft. Worth off of University & I30. 5 or 6 people are needed each night from 7pm to 10pm. Our duties are to take care of the boxers fight books (win/loss records) and to assist the medical staff. It’s a very easy job. Basically, you get to watch the fights (most of the time, you sitting ring side) and if there is a fight that the referee stops, we walk with the fighter to the first aid room.

Please let me know if you are interested and what day(s) you would like to participate. This will be fun!

**Upcoming Events**

Fort Worth Branch Chapter Meeting
The next Branch meeting will be on Tuesday February 17, 11:45am to 1:00pm. There will be 2 main speakers from Austin TxDOT:
**Keith Ramsey, P.E.** - He will speak on the different inspection aspects of the State-wide Bridge Inspection Program, and also how consultants are selected for the statewide inspection pool.
**Kenneth Mullin, P.E.** - He will speak on the funding of the different types of structural work under State-wide Federal-Aid Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRP), how projects are selected for HBRP, how the program is funded and how the Bridge Division selects their evergreen consultants. Additionally, there will be two representatives from the Fort Worth District:
**Sam Swan, P.E.** - To answer any questions on the consultant selection process for the projects in our District, and Shiraz Dhanani, P.E. - To answer any questions on the inspection of the bridges and the programming of the bridge projects, in our District.

For details/directions please go to the Fort Worth Branch website [http://www.fwasce.org](http://www.fwasce.org)

**Previous Events**

Fort Worth ASCE and the “Christmas Wish Project”
A group of fifteen younger members, seasoned members and significant others met at a warehouse in south Fort Worth to assemble toys for Foster children. This was an extremely rewarding and worthy project. I submitted an article to National ASCE that was published in the Section Informant. To view article [http://www.asce.org/pdf/sec_informant.pdf](http://www.asce.org/pdf/sec_informant.pdf)
Membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers is a career investment. ASCE provides members the ability to gain peer recognition through awards, leadership opportunities, and publishing opportunities. ASCE also provides members the ability to gain access to continuing education through meetings, conferences, publications, and web sites. Finally, ASCE also provides members the ability to advance in their careers through networking opportunities and job services.

If you know of someone who would like the ability to make a career investment in a professional society, the ASCE 2004 Membership drive/contest is still under way. To view the rules and information on the drive, you can visit www.ASCEDrive.org.

We would like to congratulate ten Members of the Fort Worth Branch who have received their Life Member certificates. They are Romeo Baylosis, Abani Karmakar, Dwight Lee, Thomas Markwiese, Andres Munoz, Shirley Roberts, Behzad Rohani, Robert Rowley, Albert Veselka, and Kantilal Wani.

The Fort Worth Branch is also accepting nominations for advancement to Fellow grade. A Fellow must have active membership status and have been a Member for a minimum of 10 years. If you would like to nominate someone for advancement to Fellow grade, please contact me at scrawford@halff.com. As a reminder to current ASCE members, ASCE provides convenient, cost-saving personal and financial benefits. ASCE also works to give you the career resources you need. If you have questions or need information on ASCE benefits, please visit www.asce.org/membership/benefits.cfm.

At each monthly Branch meeting, information is provided on ASCE Membership Benefits and Services, information on the Membership Drive/Contest, and ASCE Membership packets. These are free for anyone who is interested. If you would like to join ASCE or know of anyone who would like to join the organization, please visit www.asce.org/membership/index.cfm or contact me.

Stephen Crawford
Membership Committee Chair

ASCE Fort Worth Branch
Treasurer’s Summary
January 2004

The Branch budget and books for 2002-03 were reviewed by John Wier, outgoing treasurer, Richard Postma, member-at-large, and Roxanne Pillar, incoming treasurer, on October 14, 2003. Everything was in order and well organized. Thank you John for a job well done. Our new year has gotten off to a tremendous start thanks to all of the firms participating in the website sponsorships. We have 4 Level I and 8 Level II sponsorships generating funds in the amount of $2,700.

The Branch did purchase the Quicken accounting software for the treasurer's use. We sent $300 to the UTA ASCE Student Chapter for the fall semester.

We currently have $13,874 in our Bank of America account.
Monthly Meeting Report for January 2004

ATTENDANCE
BRANCH: Fort Worth Monthly Meeting
Members: 73
DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 17, 2004
Spouses: 0
LOCATION: Richland Hill Church of Christ
Guests: 24
Students: Richland Hills, Texas

PRESIDING: Chris Schnitger, P.E. Total: 98

(X) President ( ) Other

A. Business Meeting Comments:

Fort Worth Branch President-Chris Schnitger, PE opened the meeting with welcoming and introductory comments.

- Dan Hartman, PE gave the Invocation.

- Chris gave a reminder that Engineer’s Week is February 23-27. The week will conclude with a joint banquet sponsored in-part by TSPE and ASCE on Saturday evening February 28th. He informally recognized Mark Assaad, PE as the Branch’s “Young Engineer of the Year” and Mark will be officially recognized at the banquet. Chris noted that there will be special sections in the newspapers for Engineer’s week. He also announced that application forms for the “Order of the Engineer” ceremony are available on the table in the hall.

- Chris recognized Carter and Burgess as “Firm of the Month”.

- Scott Berman, PE gave a Younger Member update. He just returned from the Zone III conference in Chicago. There, on Saturday February 14, 2004, Scott was recognized as the recipient of ASCE’s Zone III National Citizen Engineer of the Year Award. The Award was presented in recognition of the many community service projects performed by the Fort Worth Branch Younger Member Group. Projects included: the Bedford Central Park Pool Renovation, Fort Worth Habitat for Humanity, and Boo at the Zoo. This Award has brought National recognition to the Fort Worth area and raised awareness of the profession of civil engineering in our community. Scott thanked all the volunteers who helped.

- Scott then gave an account of some of the business at the Zone III meeting including the push to implement Policy 465 and the “beta testing” being undertaken in 10 civil engineering colleges. The current National President, Patricia Galloway and President-Elect Bill Henry were in attendance and delivered several speeches on ASCE issues. Two important issues were: Policy 465 and ASCE Governance. Policy 465, also known as Bachelor Degree + Masters or 30 Credits, is a push to require a Masters Degree or an equivalent 30 hours of accepted continuing education beyond the BS degree in order to obtain professional licensure. Currently, ASCE is working with ABET and the NCEES along with 10 test Universities to revise existing curricula for Policy 465. Schools include Penn State, Purdue, Rose-Hulman, and the University of Oklahoma. The reasoning behind this policy is for civil engineers to be able to regulate their own profession before someone else does. ASCE members may be asked to vote on this issue this summer. The ASCE Governance issue proposes to reorganize the geographical structure of ASCE from its current 4 zones to a proposed 9 regions. Creating 9 regions will create more national officer and director positions thereby increasing the availability of communication with National representation and also provide local ASCE members a better opportunity to serve on a national committee or hold a national office. National ASCE is a strong proponent to both of the issues.
Rhonda Visintainer, PE introduced the speakers.

Program Highlights:

Speaker: Keith Ramsey, PE and Tim L. Mullin, PE
Firm Name and Address: TxDot, Bridge Division, Austin, Texas
Title of Presentation: “TxDot’s Bridge Inspection Program”

Program Comments or Highlights:

Mr. Ramsey is a state bridge inspection engineer. He started his presentation by first outlining the history of the development of the federal bridge inspection program. The recognition of the need for such a program was evidenced by a series of partial or total failures of bridges years ago. The first legislation was the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1968, and that was followed by the adoption of the NBIS in 1971, the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978, and then a revision of the NBIS in 1988.

Today, routine safety inspections are conducted every two years on bridges having an opening greater than 20-feet. In Texas that includes about 33,000 On-system bridges (comprising roughly 10% of all the bridges in the United States) and about 17,000 Off-system bridges. Underwater inspections are performed where a year-round water depth greater than 4-feet exists.

Mr. Ramsey gave a detailed explanation of the manner in which consulting engineers and their firms are pre-certified through the Austin Bridge Division and how the selection process is conducted. He gave the requirements for the Project Manager as well as the Team Leader. He noted that the experience of the person is a very important selection consideration. Other components considered in selection include the number of prior inspections made by the firm, the degree to which experience is “current” (last five years) and the responses to interview questions. The typical process begins with the NOI-Notice of Intent, followed by the LOI-Letter of Intent, long list, short list, interviews, selection, contract and work authorization.

Tim Mullin, PE, Senior Project Manager Area II, then discussed the 1966 Highway Trust Fund and other sources of funding. He discussed the manner in which bridge inspection projects are typically funded. The TxDot Bridge Division administers four separate programs including one to eliminate at-grade crossings of On-system facilities at railroads. Projects are ranked in several ways including evaluation of the savings over the 50-year design life to highway user costs.

Tim gave a detailed analysis of the sufficiency rating methodology. He speculated that even with all the money spent to repair and replace bridges which are either “structurally deficient” or “functionally deficient”, it is unlikely we are outpacing the overall rate of deterioration of this very important infrastructure.

Concluding the program, Sam E. Swan, PE, Consultant Review Engineer with TxDot’s the Fort Worth District left his business cards and copies of the latest “Fort Worth District Consultant Newsletter” on the table for those interested.

Rhonda Visintainer presented the speakers with ASCE thank you gifts.

President Schnitger gave away three “Engineer Week prizes” to those who found the hidden post-it-notes stuck to the bottom of their chairs. In closing, he requested they sign the sign-in sheet and wished them his best for a great Engineer’s Week.
Officer’s Texas Section ASCE
Fort Worth Branch

President, 2003-2004
Christian Schnitger, P.E.
(817) 649-3216

Past President, 2003-2004
Mark N. Assaad, P.E.
(817) 335-9900

Vice President, 2003-2004
John P. Wier, P.E.
(817) 467-7700

President Elect & Programs
Ronda D. Visintainer, P.E.
(817) 847-1422

Treasurer & Audit, 2003-2004
Roxanne Pillar, P.E.
(817) 335-9900

Secretary, 2003-2004
John P. Wier, P.E.
(817) 467-7700

Webmaster, 2003-2004
Marc T. Miller, P.E.
(817) 847-1422

Hospitality Committee
Devon Tiner, EIT
(972) 574-6707

Honors/Awards Nominations
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(817) 847-1422

Branch Director, 2003-2004
Michael G. DeMotte, EIT
(817) 335-6511

History & Heritage
Jill R. Rankin, P.E.
(817) 735-7025

Branch Director, 2003-2004
Joseph T. Barrow, P.E.
(817) 332-8977

Continuing Education
Shannon Nave
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Student Liaison
Leah Hermes
(817) 649-3216

Membership Committee
Stephen B. Crawford
(817) 847-1422

UTA Student Chapter
Sanford P. LaHue, P.E.
(817) 272-5055

Texas Section Dates

March 1, 2004 Deadline for Honors Nominations
Deadline for OCEA Nominations
Deadline for ASCE Honorary Member Nominations

Texas Section Meetings

April 21-24, 2004 Spring 2004 Meeting: Rio Grande Valley Branch, South Padre Island
2004 DALLAS/FT. WORTH JOINT ASCE GOLF TOURNAMENT
BENEFITING THE ASCE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Friday, May 7th, 2004
BEAR CREEK GOLF CLUB
(WEST COURSE)
(972) 456-3200
3500 Bear Creek Court, Dallas, TX 75621
(Inside DFW Airport)

For more information, contact:
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Updating your ASCE Information

It is important to update your work address and e-mail on the ASCE WEBSITE WHEN MOVING. It is easy do and only takes a few minutes.
Go to www.asce.org

Membership Web Addresses:
www.asce.org/myprofile update your contact information
www.asce.org/renewal Membership renewal
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