

Fall 2016 Volume 10, Issue 1



Fort Worth Civil Engineer

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Time flies. A true statement when it comes to time spent on the Board of the Fort Worth Branch ASCE. Three years seemed like a long time at the start of my cycle for the Fort Worth Branch ASCE Presidency. Throughout my time starting as Treasurer which transitioned to Vice-President/Treasurer, and finally President I have had the support and hard work by members, students, and most of all the unwavering effort of the Branch Board of Directors and Committee Chairs.

We tried a number of things over the past three years. Some of it worked, other initiatives fell flat. We have made inroads updating our partnerships with other organizations, member communication is more robust, and the newsletter has been revived. We are now livestreaming almost all of our meetings for our outlying areas and have had a great three year run of dynamic and educational speakers at our monthly meetings. This year as the Branch host of the joint Fort Worth/ Dallas golf tournament we brazenly stared down a rain soaked Cowboys golf course and said we are not going home today, we've got money to raise for UTA. We have a better idea of who constitutes the ASCE membership, where they live and work, and most of all where they want to attend the monthly meetings. We've raised the profile of the Fort Worth Branch at the Global ASCE level with the National President and a Region 6 Governor hailing from the Fort Worth Branch along with the Texas Section level with the Texas Section President calling Fort Worth home and the 7th Street Bridge being recognized as a Texas Section Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement.

I cannot take credit for all the things that the Branch has done however. I was humbled to follow in the footsteps of Leah Hodge and Mandy Clark who made the presidency an easy transition from normal ASCE member life. I can only hope that my time as President has done the same for Clint Hoover and Niraj Acharya.

As Past President, I will be headed to San Marcos September 21-23 for the CECON conference as I venture into another ASCE role as the Texas Section Vice President Professional. The Fort Worth Branch is now one of the Branch Sponsors of the premiere Texas Civil Engineering Conference. I urge you to join me there

as it has excellent civil engineering focused content, offers technical tracks from the ASCE Institutes, and has Texas specific speakers. Our new President, Clint Hoover, is already driving us forward and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Branch. I'm confident that the future of the Fort Worth Branch ASCE is bright and once again, thank you for the opportunity to have served the members these past three years.

The time truly has flown by.

Travis Attanasio, P.E.
 Branch President 2015-2016



LETTER FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

The Fort Worth Branch of ASCE is a great organization to be involved with and I look forward to continue serving with an excellent group of Directors in the 2016-2017 year! Please be sure to attend the September 2016 meeting in support of the new Branch Directors to be installed. Thank you to those who have served this year to help make the Fort Worth Branch a reliable resource for local Civil Engineers to turn to for their continuing education needs, networking, and other professional opportunities.

The Fort Worth Branch has a rich history and it is an honor for me to serve the Fort Worth Branch during the 2016-2017 year as we esteem to help encourage, support, and motivate current and future Civil Engineers of all disciplines. Fort Worth ASCE has helped me professionally and also has allowed me to connect with other local engineers that I otherwise would have not likely met. If you have not yet signed up or renewed your membership and/or corporate sponsorship please consider doing so!

By becoming a member of this branch along with sponsorship support, you partner with the Fort Worth Branch in giving back to the local community. The branch continually supports scholarships at UTA for Civil Engineering students, supports local charities, and this year the Branch is also a sponsor of the 2016 CECON conference.

A special thank you to Jennifer Roberts for her work to coordinate the Fort Worth ASCE Branch Newsletter! Also thank you to Mark Perkins and Aileen Roberts of Perkins Engineering Consultants for their suggestions and help when consulted for their experience in publishing the Fort Worth ASCE Branch Newsletter.

Clint Hoover, P.E. Branch Vice President, Treasurer 2015-2016 Branch President 2016-2017

SECRETARY'S REPORT

by Niraj Acharya, P.E.

May Branch Meeting

Date: May 16, 2016

Location: Ruth's Chris Steak House

Speaker: Andy Taft, President Downtown Fort Worth, Inc. Presentation: Designing Safety into Highway-Rail

Attendance: 91

June Joint ITE/ASCE Branch Meeting

Date: June 20, 2016

Location: Fort Worth Museum of Science and History

Grade Crossing Projects Speaker: Tim Oster, CTC, Inc.

Attendance: 105 (including ITE members)

July Joint Fort Worth/ Dallas Branch Mtg

Date: July 11, 2016

Location: Arlington Hilton Hotel Presentation: TxDOT Update Speaker: Victor T. Vandergriff,

Commissioner - Texas Transportation

Commission

Attendance: 90 (FTW)



Niraj Acharya, Travis Attanasio, Dan Hartman, Victor Vandergriff, Frank Pugsly, Brad Hernandez, Julie Jones, and Mark Boyd

UPCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS

October Meeting

Date: October 17, 2016 Regular Branch Meeting

Location: TBD

Speaker/ Presentation: TBD

November Meeting

Date: November 14, 2016 Meeting with UTA Student Ch

Location: TBD

Speaker/ Presentation: TBD

December Meeting

Date: December 19, 2016 Regular Branch Meeting

Location: TBD

Speaker/ Presentation: TBD





















As of August 2016, the Fort Worth Branch had an account balance of \$23,200.

We appreciate all of you who pay online for the meetings. Don't forget that if you pay online you are automatically entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card.

Thank you for your continued support of the Fort Worth Branch!

THE BRANCH WILL SOON HAVE <u>2</u> STUDENT CHAPTERS UNDER OUR WING: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON *and* TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

The Fort Worth Branch currently sponsors the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) Student Chapter of ASCE.

UTA is located in Arlington, Texas and in 2015 saw its total enrollment in the Civil Engineering college jump from 764 in 2014 to 939 students (BS/ MS/ ME/ MCM/ PhD). The research at UTA in the CE Department is spans all specialties and includes monitoring of sediment transport in rivers, urban flood analysis, driver sensitivity to toll pricing, strength of horizontal shear reinforcement, sustainable waste management, flexible pavements using recycled binder, the development of a triaxial testing device for expansive and unsaturated soils... just to name a few!

UTA ASCE student chapter under the leadership of their faculty advisor, Dr. Jim Williams, consistently attend Texas-Mexico Region conferences and compete in both the concrete canoe and steel bridge competitions. And you have probably seen a few UTA ASCE Student Chapter members at our monthly meetings.

To find out more about the UTA Student Chapter, please visit their website at: asceuta.strikingly.com

The Fort Worth Branch is excited to announce the planting of a new ASCE Student Chapter at Tarleton State University (TSU)!

This month, September 2016, the TSU will be submitting their "Statement of Intent to Establish" a, ASCE Student Chapter under the leadership of their faculty advisor, Dr. Rajesh Vuddandam. TSU is located in Stephenville, Texas, has an enrollment of 60+ in their Civil Engineering degree program, and is proud to boast many Forth Worth Branch members as alums.

The Fort Worth Branch could not be happier to see a new ASCE Student Chapter develop at TSU. We look forward to getting better connected with the university and its students!

Welcome. Tarleton to the Fort Worth Branch of ASCE!

SECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Kimberly Cornett, P.E.

ASCE TEXAS SECTION WEBINARS ARE COMING BACK TO THE FORT WORTH BRANCH!!

We need your help by opening up a room for the lunch hour to host the webinar. All you need is a room that holds 10-15 people and the capabilities to host a webinar. The branch will set up the rest. The webinar dates are September 13, October 11th, November 14th and December 12th. If you are interested in hosting a webinar please contact Kimberly.Cornett@jacobs.com

The Texas Section Board of Directors voted on and approved a dues increase of \$15 at the April 2016 Board Meeting. The increase will be reflected on your ASCE membership renewal in 2017.

Don't forget to check the boxes to support the Texas Section and Fort Worth Branch when you renew your membership. This how the Texas Section and local branch receive funds from ASCE national.

The Texas Section endorses the Texas High Speed Rail Project. Read more at this link http://www.constructionequipmentguide.com/asce-endorses-texas-high-speed-rail-project/29619 And don't forget:

- CECON September 21-23, 2016 Register Now!
- Student Symposium April 2017 at the University of Texas at El Paso.

6 4

Vol. 10

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Fall

FORT WORTH CIVIL ENGINEER

THE ASCE WIVES CLUB OF FORT WORTH

Ms. Alice Nixon recently contacted me and related that her grandmother, Mrs. Sam A. Nixon, had been active in the "American Society of Civil Engineers' Wives Club of Fort Worth, Texas". She graciously sent a copy of a Yearbook for 1950-51 she found while going through some of her grandmother's papers. This is a nice slice of history from an era that I'm sure predates the birth of most of our current members. (I have to admit that, being one year old in 1950, I was not aware of this organization.)

It is interesting to note the names of Past Presidents, many of whose husbands were prestigious civil engineers who are now legends in the development of the mid-20th century civil engineering profession in Texas. Additionally, in the roster can be found names of other leaders I recall from my early career like Bell, Buckley, Burgess, Freese, Geren, Hardy, Hendrick, Mapes, Nichols, and Thelin to name a few.

American Society of Civil Engineers' Wives Club

ORGANIZED, 1941

Regular Meeting Fourth Wednesday of each month September through April

1950-1951

PAST PRESIDENTS

Mrs. C. M. Davis Mrs. J. J. Rady Mrs. William Grant Mrs. Uel Stephens Mrs. D. W. Robinson Mrs. S. G. Endress Mrs. H. H. Hester Mrs. J. K. Alewine

Mrs. C. J. Harkrider

"...Past Presidents, many of whose husbands were prestigious civil engineers who are now legends in the development of the mid-20th century civil engineering profession in Texas."

In perusing the eleven-page Yearbook it was interesting to note that telephone numbers, unlike our current 10-digit versions) consisted only of six digits. The first two digits formed an alphabetical prefix and only the last four digits were numerals (i.e. SU-5506 or WA-2554). And mailing addresses of the members lack a "zip code" (because those weren't introduced until 1963).

The 1950-51 the yearbook revealed that The Wives Club had been organized in 1941 (the year the U.S. entered WWII). By 1950 the 52 members were served by seven (7) officers (Honorary President, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Historian). Nine committees supported the activities (Programs, Telephone, Courtesy, Finance, Social, Yearbook, Membership, Publicity and Nominating).

Regular meetings were held monthly September through April. Every other month the meeting was devoted to "business" while a "program" was

presented at meetings on the alternate months. December's gathering was a Christmas party.

I'm not sure when the Wives Club ceased to be a functioning part of our ASCE Branch. Certainly many non-engineer wives still support their husbands in the engineering profession in many different ways. But today many women are involved with the Branch as professional engineers. The number of U.S. females earning Bachelors degrees in Engineering was probably close to 0% in the 1950's. According to the Society of Women Engineers that increased to 0.8% in the early 1970's and to 18.2% in 2010.

Lastly, the Yearbook also contained the Constitution and Bylaws of the Wives Club. particularly liked the section of the Bylaws which called for annual membership dues of \$1.00. Maybe we should lobby for a return to the "good ole davs". FORT WORTH CIVIL ENGINEER 5





















2015-2016 FORT WORTH BRANCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PRESIDENT Travis Attanasio, P.E. travis.asce@gmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT/TREASURER Clinton Hoover, P.E. clint.hoover@arlingtontx.gov

PAST PRESIDENT Mandy Clark, P.E. mandy.clark@arlingtontx.gov

SECRETARY/ASST. **TREASURER** Niraj Acharya, P.E. nacharya@tnpinc.com

DIRECTOR Scott Berman, P.E. sberman@pkce.com

DIRECTOR Austin Baird, P.E. abaird@bhbinc.com

DIRECTOR Daniel Tremper, P.E. dtremper@dunaway-assoc.com

AUDIT Mandy Clark, P.E. mandy.clark@arlingtontx.gov

MEMBERSHIP Lisha Sosa, E.I.T. LSosa@multatech.com

Colleen Howard, E.I.T. Judith.howard@hdrinc.com

YOUNGER MEMBERS Jeff Philipp, E.I.T. jeff.philipp@freese.com

SPECIAL MTG ARRANGEMENTS Kameron Boggan, E.I.T. kaboggan@transystems.com

Clinton Hoover, P.E. clint.hoover@arlingtontx.gov

MEETING SETUP Austin Baird, P.E. abaird@bhbinc.com

PROGRAM

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Johnathan Zimmerer, P.E. jwzimmerer@transystems.com

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ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER Jennifer Roberts, P.E. jhroberts@lan-inc.com

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2016-2017

FORT WORTH BRANCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS Names recommended by Nominating Committee

PRESIDENT Clinton Hoover, P.E. clint.hoover@arlingtontx.gov

VICE-PRESIDENT/TREASURER Niraj Acharya, P.E. nacharya@tnpinc.com

PAST PRESIDENT Travis Attanasio, P.E. travis.asce@gmail.com

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DIRECTOR Paul Banschbach, P.E. PMBanschbach@lan-inc.com

DIRECTOR Daniel Tremper, P.E. dtremper@dunaway-assoc.com

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YOUNGER MEMBERS Jeff Philipp, E.I.T. jeff.philipp@freese.com

SPECIAL MTG ARRANGEMENTS Kameron Boggan, E.I.T. kaboggan@transystems.com

PROGRAM Niraj Acharya, P.E. nacharya@tnpinc.com

MEETING SETUP Andrew Wilson, E.I.T. andrew.wilson@pelotonland.com

CONTINUING EDUCATION Position Available

HISTORICAL John P. Wier, P.E. johnw@wierassociates.com

Travis Attanasio, P.E. travis.asce@gmail.com HOSPITALITY

Andrea McGinley, P.E. amcginley@mmatexas.com

Johnathan Zimmerer, P.E. jwzimmerer@transystems.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS Moises Razo-Madrid, E.I.T. Moises.Razo-Madrid@freese.com

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UTA PRACTITIONER ADVISORS Scott Berman, P.E. sberman@pkce.com

Fall 2016

IN MEMORIAM



Edward Allen Childress (1957 – 2016)

The following is an excerpt from his obituary as published in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on July 26, 2016:

"Never had it so good." - my favorite quote, borrowed from my best friend, Mike Harrison.

"Were I still alive and kickin', I'd introduce myself to you immediately since I never knew a stranger in my life. I'd shake your hand firmly with a welcoming grin on my face, bright blue eyes sparkling against my tan skin. I'd tell you my name was Ed Childress, that I was 59 years young, and when asked how I was doing my immediate response would be, "Never had it so good." We'd chat for a few minutes,

and you'd instantly be drawn to my dry sense of humor, my bark of a laugh that tripped so frequently off my tongue, and the wit that wove itself through every facet of my being. You would then roll your eyes at my constant "dad" jokes, just like my children loved to do.

Because I liked to focus only on the positive, what you would not see was me fighting the most important battle of my life - my battle against prostate cancer. I'd been wrestling with this enemy for almost five years, and that conflict ended with my passing on Wednesday, July 20, 2016, in the beautiful mountains of New Mexico. Let me tell you, though, cancer did not in any way define my life. While my fight was long and hard at times, my overwhelming positive nature and zest for life helped me stay happy and focused and allowed me to see the joy in having fun, even through the difficult days...

All in all, my life was exceptional in every possible way. I had fun with everything I experienced, and I can rest easy knowing I loved my family and friends and was loved so well in return."



TEXAS CIVIL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

Reasons to Attend:

- 1. Civil Engineering Focused Content
- 2. Networking Texas Style
- 3. Conveniently located mid-state
- 4. Valuable Professional Development
- 5. Fascinating, Contemporary Topics
- 6. Technical Tracks from ASCE Institutes
- 7. Three Days of Learning up to 19 PDH's
- 8. Industry Leaders
- 9. Texas Specific Speakers

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This newsletter will be distributed quarterly, the first week of March, June, September and December. If you have information you would like to have published in the newsletter, please contact Jennifer Roberts, Newsletter Chair, jhroberts@lan-inc.com

For corporate sponsorships please contact Clinton Hoover, Treasurer, clint.hoover@arlingtontx.gov



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