

Fort Worth Civil Engineer

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As MacGillivray Freeman's *Dream Big!* iMax film has begun to be viewed by the public, we would like to highlight efforts of the Fort Worth Branch as to our involvement with the film locally. The Fort Worth Branch is excited to partner with the Fort Worth Science and History Museum on three occasions for the film. On Saturday, February 18, 2017 the film was debuted to local engineers and several volunteers from the Branch were in attendance and helped to educate the public about engineering through Q&A along with hands-on activities with a fun engineering focus.

Our regular February 20, 2017 meeting concluded with lunch attendees having the option to stay and watch *Dream Big!* At the conclusion of the meeting. Perhaps the most exciting event was the Girls in Engineering Day event that was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 for 100 girls to attend for free (which was maxed out), engage in fun engineering activities by interacting with female engineers, snack, and also watch *Dream Big!* The entire cost of the Girls in Engineering Day was funded through a grant that the Branch applied for and received for the *Dream Big!* Debut!

Every generation that we inspire to carry the torch of privilege and responsibility of engineering benefits everyone in the present and also the future! Great job and thank you everyone who in some way volunteered your time or contributed to the local *Dream Big!* Effort!

The Branch would like to congratulate Kameron Boggan for her being awarded the Fort Worth Branch Edmund Friedman Young Engineer of the Year award for 2017!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement with our Branch and know that we are excited to see what the Spring and Summer have in store!

- Clint Hoover, P.E., MBA, M.ASCE
Branch President 2016-2017



UPCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS

April Meeting

Date: April 17, 2017

Regular Branch Meeting

Location: Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

Speaker/ Presentation: TBD

May Meeting

Date: May 15, 2017

Regular Branch Meeting

Location: Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

Location/Presentation: TBD

June Meeting

Date: June 19, 2017

Joint meeting with ITE

Speaker/ Presentation: TBD

MEETINGS THIS QUARTER

by Jennifer Roberts, P.E.

December Branch Meeting

Date: Dec 19, 2016

Location: Ruth's Chris Steak House

Speaker: Dr. Doug Wiersig; Director
Transportation & Public Works at
City of Fort Worth

Attendance: 125

Niraj Acharya (Vice-President), Clint Hoover (President) and Doug Wiersig (City of Fort Worth Director of TPW)



After the meeting members had a chance to enjoy the F-35 on display in from of the Fort Worth Convention Center



Left: Jennifer Roberts (Newsletter Chair) enjoying the view from the cockpit

Right: Travis Attanasio (Past President) looking sharp in his aviators and the model F-35



January - Annual Joint Meeting with SAME

Date: Jan 3, 2017

Location: Petroleum Club, 777 Main, 40th Floor

Presentation: ASCE/SAME Organization Goals and Objectives

Speakers: ASCE -Dan Hartman, P.E.; SAME - Anthony Semento

Attendance: 50 ASCE Members

February Branch Meeting

Date: Feb 21, 2017

Location: Fort Worth Museum of Science and History

Presentation: Trinity River Vision Project Update

Speaker: Randle Harwood; City of Fort Worth Director of Planning and Development
Attendance: 100



Randle Harwood (City of Fort Worth Director of P&D) and Clint Hoover



Packed house at February's Meeting

March Branch Meeting

Date: Mar 20, 2017

Location: Ruth's Chris Steak House

Presentation: Texas Central Rail Update

Speaker: Yinka Robinson, MPS, Texas Central Partners

Attendance: 126

Niraj Acharya Yinka Robinson (Texas Central Partners External Affairs Manager)



ASCE REGIONS 3, 6 & 7: MULTI-REGION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (MLRC)

The MLRC was held in Minneapolis, MN on February 3-4 this year. The Metroplex was well represented with nine Fort Worth and Dallas Branch ASCE members in attendance.

Back row: Kimberly Cornett (FTW Branch Texas Section Director), Andrea Taylor (Hospitality Chair), Mark Boyd (DAL Branch President-Elect), Lindsay A. O'Leary (Executive Director of ASCE Texas Section), Farwa Sultan (DAL Younger Member Chair), Fabian Herrera (DAL Golf Tournament Chair), Andrew Wilson (FTW Meeting Setup Chair)

Front row: Dan Hartman (ASCE Region 6 Governor), Niraj Acharya (FTW Branch VP)



EDMUND FRIEDMAN YOUNG ENGINEER AWARD



CONGRATULATIONS to KAMERON BOGGAN
on being awarded the Edmund Friedman
Young Engineer of the Year for the Branch!

Be sure to tell her congrats and also thank her for her service to the Branch. The awards banquet was held in conjunction with the TSPE E-Week festivities on Friday, February 24, 2017 at Ridgela Country Club in Fort Worth. Kameron's family flew in to attend!

GIRLS IN ENGINEERING DAY at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History

The Girls in Engineering Day that the Fort Worth Branch sponsored via a grant was a success this past Saturday hosting 97 attendees! Below is a thank you note from a proud Mom of a future engineer!



Anne,

This is my daughter Priya at 6:10pm today. She couldn't wait to get home and get started on her Snap Circuit kit that has been sitting in the cupboard for two years!

Thank you so much for organizing such a great event. We really enjoyed every aspect of it. The scavenger hunt, the movie and an opportunity to chat with a real life woman engineer (the awesome Carol) were invaluable.

Thanks to all the staff and volunteers at the museum for making this possible.

Kind Regards,

Kulvinder

STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATE: TARLETON STATE UNIVERISITY (TSU)

The TSU ASCE Student Chapter Letter of Intent was **ACCEPTED!**

CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME TSU TEXANS!!!

STATE LEGISLATIVE DRIVE-IN 2017 - Texas Section ASCE Advocacy at The State Capitol

by Glenn Celerier, P.E., Engineer's in Government Chairman

The Texas Section held its first State Legislative Drive-In at the State Capitol on February 7th, and Travis Attanasio, Austin Baird and I were amongst the more than 20 Texas Section members who drove to Austin. The Drive-In is an extension of an ASCE 2011 initiative to interact with state legislators so as to move legislation towards improving the infrastructure of the people we serve.

During a legislative session a legislator's time is limited, so, prior to the Drive-In, the Section decided we should advocate the upcoming Texas Infrastructure Report Card as well ask our respective representative and senator to protect transportation infrastructure water infrastructure funding.

To prepare section members for the Drive-In ASCE Global broadcast a training webinar explaining how ASCE members can advocate. Then the morning of the Drive-In the Texas Section held a training meeting and arranged for three speakers to address: the current Texas legislative climate; navigating the State Capitol and the finer points necessary to develop trust and rapport with legislators so as to become an influential advocate.

During the morning training each speaker noted legislators are generally eager to speak with constituents who speak with professional expertise regarding infrastructure improvements. Capitalizing on this eagerness is especially important since there are currently only two engineers serving in the Texas Legislature. To sum up the morning training we learned becoming an influential advocate starts by creating a rapport with a legislator regarding local issues rather than simply providing a list of pre-packaged talking points.

The morning speakers also introduced us to the first two steps towards becoming the informed local advocate from within the legislator's district. First learn their interests and

motives and then communicate helpful timely information rather calling only when you want their vote. We were encouraged to become an independent professional advocate who can answer local technical infrastructure questions.

After lunch each section member met with the legislators representing his or her respective house and senate district. I was able to speak with Representative Tony Tinderholt whose represents a large portion of Arlington and a Mr. Grant Schauer a policy analyst for Senator Konni Burton. Senator Burton's district includes almost all of Tarrant County.

Representative Tinderholt indicated there was broad support from House conservatives for sustaining transportation and water infrastructure funding. In addition, both Representative Tinderholt and Mr. Schauer expressed interested in the upcoming ASCE Report Card, and their interest provides a great topic for a future meeting once the current legislative session closes.

At the end of the day I considered the Drive-In successful because I established contacts and came away with a topic for a follow up meetings in the district office after the current legislative session closes.

In addition to the aforementioned Texas Section objectives, ASCE Global encourages members to advocate for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) education; support for civil engineering higher education; sustainability; tort reform; indemnification for pro bono services; and infrastructure funding.

If you are interested in advocacy I encourage you to look at the ASCE policy statements listed on the ASCE website under the "Issues and Advocacy" tab to see if ASCE has a position regarding an important issue in your legislative district. Then give me a call and I'll help you get started.



ENGINEERING A BETTER TEXAS SINCE 1913
Legislative Drive-In 2017



WHAT MEMBERS CAN GET UP TO WHEN NOT AT WORK:

Upcoming Fun Events at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History on April 1!



For the Kiddos: iMake is a family friendly do-it-yourself Maker Festival from 10:00 am-4:00 pm. Lots of great makers and lots of hands-on projects to do.

For the Adults! : Science on Tap from 6:00-10:00 pm is for guests 21+-a great chance to explore the museum with a drink in hand, listen to great music and have LOTS of fun activities scattered throughout the Museum. Best to get tickets in advance for this event.



FORT WORTH MUSEUM
SCIENCE AND HISTORY

If you are able to attend, please send your fun photos in so they can be included in the next newsletter!

SECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Kimberly Cornett, P.E.

The **2017 Infrastructure Report** was released March 9th, check it out here: [2017 Infrastructure Report Card](#). We are encouraged to direct all media attention to the Global representative, Becky Moylan at BMoylan@asce.org. Watch for the Texas Infrastructure Report Card the week of May 15th.

The **CECON committee needs two volunteers** to assist on the planning committee. They are hoping to get people all over the state and transition from year to year with the planning manual so each year go smoothly. Please contact Kimberly.cornett@jacobs.com if you are interested.



VOTE THIS MAY FOR THE NEXT PRESIDENT ELECT OF ASCE:

More information about the candidates can be seen here: <http://www.asce.org/elections/>

Texas Excellence in Journalism Award is due by September. If you have read a great article in the local newspaper this year and it is worth being recognized, you can nominate the author of the article. For more information please contact: Kimberly.cornett@jacobs.com



Texas Section Webinars: We are still in need of host companies for the Texas Section Webinars that occur the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Please contact Kimberly Cornett, Kimberly.cornett@jacobs.com, if you are interested in being a host. A host provides a conference room with webinar capabilities and ASCE coordinates the rest.



Birth Announcement:

Mark (Past FTW President) and Brenda Perkins are celebrating the birth of their first grandchild:

Morgan Jane Perkins

Born December 1, 2016



THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF TEXAS ENGINEERING REGISTRATION

The second article I wrote for this newsletter (17 years ago) was on the topic of the history of engineering registration in Texas. Having recently reviewed the roster of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, I thought I'd compare some ways the composition of Texas-registered Engineers has changed between 2000 vs. 2017.

In a nutshell, my 2000 article recounted that in 1937, under the leadership of ASCE, prominent Texas engineers had tried repeatedly for 25 years to convince the Texas Legislature that it was essential to the protection of the public that a law be passed to separate the qualified from the unqualified among those calling themselves "engineers".

Not much apparent progress was being made until an unfortunate event March 18, 1937. Early on that morning there was a disastrous explosion of the natural gas fired boiler in the consolidated school in the east Texas town of New London. This was the largest school of its kind in the world at the time. The explosion leveled the school, killing 294 students and teachers. Many others were left seriously injured and burned. (This was a terribly large loss of life; almost double the 168 killed in the tragic 1995 Oklahoma City bombing incident.). On May 28, 1937, a new engineering registration law was introduced in Texas and it became effective January 1, 1938. (In 1965, engineering legally became a "learned profession" in the State of Texas and Professional Engineers had new and higher responsibilities both to the state and the public).

Today, there are about 62,000 engineers of all disciplines holding a P.E. license in Texas. About 51,000 of those are "active" licensees. Comparatively, in 2000 there were roughly 47,000 active Texas-registered engineers of all disciplines.

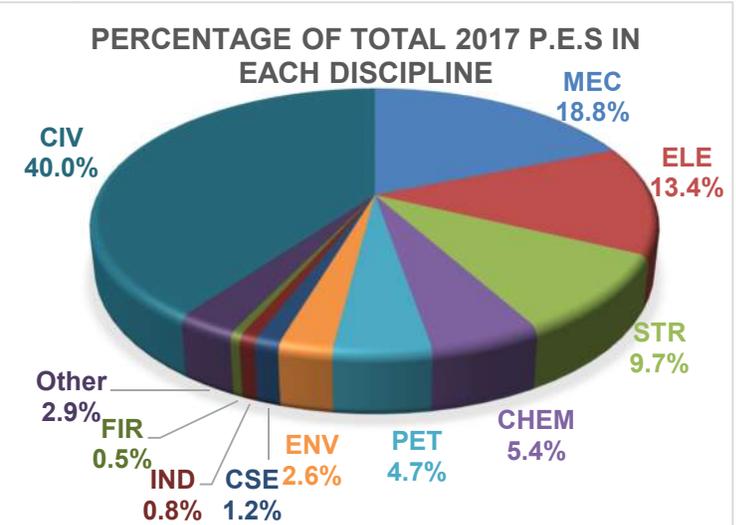
Due to retirement, death, etc. some of the year 2000-

era P.E.'s, many are no longer practicing in Texas. Still, the total number of active practicing engineers of all disciplines has increased. Perhaps surprisingly though, the overall rate of increase is only about 235 per year over the last 17 years. However, likely influenced by the demand for additional infrastructure to support the massive population growth in Texas, the

number of active Texas-licensed Civil Engineers has increased by about 630 per year during that same period.

*In 2000, there were roughly 47,000 active Texas-registered engineers of all disciplines...
Today, there are [...] 51,000 active engineers*

Today, there are 24 disciplines of registration. But 97% of the total 51,000 active engineers today are self-proclaimed to be practicing primarily in the 10 largest disciplines shown below.



While Civil Engineers continue to comprise the largest single discipline, the number of Civil Engineers has more than doubled. The growth in the next two most populous disciplines has been less robust. About 80% of the 20,325 active Civil Engineers reside in Texas.

Lastly, how long do you think your engineering career might last? Well, the earliest active Texas registration today was granted in 1947 (and that person is a Civil Engineer!)

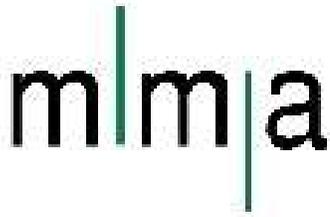
TREASURER'S REPORT

by Niraj Acharya, P.E.

As of March 2017, the Fort Worth Branch has an account balance of approximately \$21,300. Please note that the Fort Worth Branch is a Section 501.3(c)(3) non-profit organization.

We encourage all members to pay for meetings online. Doing so automatically enters you into a drawing for a \$25 gift card!

We appreciate and thank all of the members and firms that continue to support the Fort Worth Branch!



IN MEMORIAM

Harry M. Coyle PhD P.E. passed away on Wednesday, January 18, 2017. Harry was a resident of Bryan, Texas at the time of his passing. Graduating from Richland Township, PA schools, Harry briefly enlisted in the Army, then won an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he graduated in 1950. He then earned a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering in 1956 from MIT and a PhD in 1963 from the University of Texas at Austin.

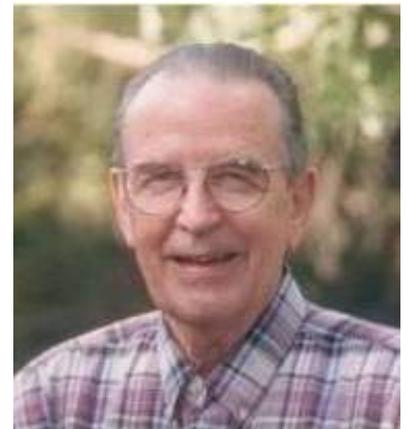
Harry met the love of his life, Josephine (Jo-Jo) Oefinger on a blind date in Washington, DC in 1954. It was love at first sight. The star-struck couple married on March 26, 1955. Their love story lasted through 56 years of marriage at her death in 2011, and until this day.

Colonel Coyle actively served his country in the Army Corps of Engineers for 12 years: in Alaska after graduation from West Point; at Ft. Belvoir, VA; in a deployment to Korea in 1957; and on faculty at West Point. He then served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves while earning his PhD in Austin. Ultimately, he attained the rank of Colonel in 1973 and retired in 1987.

With his PhD in hand, Dr. Coyle took a job at Texas A&M University in the Civil Engineering Department in 1964, and moved the family to Bryan, Texas. A popular faculty member, he energetically served his Aggie colleagues and students until his retirement in 1987.

It was in the Bryan/ College Station community that Harry's commitment and desire to serve his Lord blossomed. He and Jo-Jo became founding members of Grace Bible Church. For 50 he shared his deep faith and knowledge of the Bible with hundreds of students and many adults through small group teaching and one on one mentoring. Harry continued to disciple, support and inspire others until his death.

Harry Coyle PhD PE served as ASCE Texas Section President in 1982. He also served as President of the Brazos Branch and as Texas Section VP-Technical. He served for several years on Texas Section committees and on the Texas Civil Engineering Foundation. He also provided a Past President Oral History video which can be found on the Texas Section ASCE Website: <http://www.texasce.org/?page=oralhistory>



Vernon Allen Wuensche, P.E., died December 25, 2016 in Corpus Christi, TX. He was born September 20, 1950 in Kingsville to Ruben Vernon (Pete) and Helen Ruth (Coleman) Wuensche. After graduating from Eagle Pass High School in 1969, he worked his way through college as a carpenter and repair technician in the gas industry before receiving his BS in Civil Engineering in 1974 from Texas A&I University in Kingsville.

Vernon began his professional career with the engineering consulting firm of Ogletree & Gunn of Corpus Christi, involved primarily with marine engineering and professional diving. He was next employed by the firm of Urban Engineering where he worked on utility and wastewater management projects. He was then hired as a project engineer by the late James K. Lontos, P.E., Director of Engineering Services for the City of Corpus Christi. In 1994 Vernon received a MS in Environmental Engineering, also from Texas A&I. During his career he designed about \$100,000,000 worth of municipal/civil projects, including streets, bridges, utilities,

drainage, solid-waste, wastewater, and marina facilities, and performed numerous sanitary and drainage studies. Vernon was employed by the City a total of 33-years before retiring to enjoy his many hobbies. He was especially passionate about fishing, baseball, photography, and civil engineering history.

Among numerous professional affiliations, Vernon was proudest of his long-term memberships and leadership roles in the Corpus Christi Branch and the Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Nueces Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE). He was totally dedicated to the success of these organizations and was recognized statewide for his service. Among numerous honors he received from the Texas Section of ASCE were the Professional Service Award in 1995, the Lifetime Service Award in 2013, and the History & Heritage Award in 2016. Earlier this year he was recognized with Life Member status. And in 2007 he was named Engineer of the Year by the Nueces Chapter of TSPE.

Vernon was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church. He was preceded in death by his father, Ruben Vernon (Pete) Wuensche. He is survived by his mother, Helen Ruth Wuensche, a brother, John Anthony Wuensche (Dena), a nephew, John Austin Wuensche, his beloved girlfriend, Barbara Ann Moses, and a circle of great friends too numerous to name. His ashes will be scattered in Nighthawk Bay.



Birth Announcement:

Rhett Michael Banschbach

Born January 17, 2017

Paul (FTW Branch Director) and his wife, Holly, are excited to welcome into the world their first child!

(notice he is already following in Daddy's A&M foot steps!)



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**Moving?
Update your ASCE
Information at
www.asce.org**

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, at jroberts@lan-inc.com

For corporate sponsorships please contact Austin Baird, Treasurer, at abaird@bhbinc.com

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