

October 2020

Official Newsletter of the American Society of Civil
Engineers

Michigan Section

Lansing — Jackson Branch



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New President's Message:

Hello to an exciting 2020-2021 season of your ASCE Lansing Jackson Branch! It has been a challenging past several months, but good times are ahead and there's lots to look forward to and get excited about! Your board has been diligently navigating the new landscape to continue to provide quality activities, lunch and learns, networking and career development to our members. We are looking forward to a great season! As always, you the members are what makes this ASCE branch great, and we appreciate your patience through everything as we've made adjustments to how we do things. We especially appreciate all the involvement we've seen through switching to virtual lunch and learns, and the great participation and feedback in these events. We hope to continue to provide high-quality and relevant presentations, as well as providing more interaction, networking, social, philanthropic and student-outreach activities as the season progresses and we are all doing more personally and professionally.



I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new president for this season. I am a bridge engineer / bridge inspector working for HDR in Ann Arbor, and have been working here in Michigan for nearly 6 years. I have recently been serving the branch as its treasurer for the past three years. In my previous work, I spent all my time hanging off suspension bridges in NYC and writing volumes of condition reports. It made for some long summers, but I have a great collection of fun photos of places few get the chance to see. You truly haven't lived until you've walked the cables of the Brooklyn Bridge! At home I have a beautiful wife and three darling little

girls, and they're all a handful! They keep me very busy when I get home from bridge inspections or the office and round out my day with a smile.

We have some new goals for the branch this year that build off the great things we've been doing the last few years. We'd like to increase ASCE membership via our branch by 10% this year through referrals and need to rely on our current membership to actively recruit colleagues. We'd like to increase our scholarships to area college students, building from one \$1000 scholarship when I first joined the branch, to two the last two seasons, and I'd like to add a third for this year. We can do this with more active participation in branch activities and through sponsorships at personal and corporate levels. I would also like to increase our recognition of the great work ASCE member engineers do in the region, meaning more award participation. So many of you do so much, and we want to help promote that to bring more positive visibility to the engineering profession. Finally, I'd like to increase our overall scope of activities, by increasing our branch member involvement, through our various committees who work very hard to put together our activities, meet with students and our student chapter at MSU, and coordinate for the branch. The Board has been doing a great job of increasing activity all around, but we'd like your help and involvement to do more. Many hands make light work, and the more involvement from the branch membership, the better everything will be.

Again, I look forward to the season and expect lots of great things this year. I want to thank you for your support, your vote of confidence, and your encouragement as we officially kick off this new season! Let's have another great year here at ASCE Lansing Jackson Branch!

Sincerely,



Jason Fogg, PE
Branch President

Meet the Rest of the Board of Directors

Vice President – Kitty Rothwell, PE



I'm excited to be the Vice President for the coming year. I've been Secretary for the last three years and the rest of the Board told me it was time to move on. I've been responsible for scheduling the lunch and learns for the same period and will remain involved. This year I want to increase the (paying) membership of our chapter and increase involvement on our committees. Let me know if you are interested!

On the personal side, I've been with MDOT for over 32 years and have been the Associate Region Engineer for Development in the Southwest Region for more than half that time. I have two sons and two granddaughters. That's Alice in the picture with me; she was born October 2 and is a sweet little thing. Her sister Hazel is not sure about this interloper who is taking away mommy's attention.

Secretary -Ryan Hoensheid, PE

It is my privilege to serve as the Secretary for the upcoming year and I thank the branch for the opportunity. I graduated from Michigan Technological University in 2012. After graduating, I worked for two years in Wisconsin before returning to my home state of Michigan. Since returning to Michigan, my career has been focused in railroad and bridge engineering. My current role is Lead Engineer/Project Manager at WSP Michigan. I live in DeWitt with my wife, Katie, who is also a practicing engineer, and our two children.



The opportunities for the Lansing-Jackson Branch are limitless and I look forward to helping grow our base.

Treasurer – Nate Granger, PE



I am honored to serve as the Treasurer for the upcoming year. I have been involved with the branch since my return to the state in 2017; serving on the Program and Scholarship Committees, and as a board member in both the Vice President (2019) and Treasurer (2020) positions. Originally from Michigan and a graduate of Michigan State University, I returned to MI in 2017 after 13 years in Ohio, Texas, and Chicago, IL. My career has been primarily focused on airfield design and aviation-related program management, and I currently serve as the Technical Director for the Aviation Group at Foth Infrastructure and Environment. I look forward to meeting more of the great folks

in the greater-Lansing area, and contributing to the overall success of the branch.

Past President – Matt Wendling, PE

I am a graduate of MSU (Go Green!) with 25 years in the industry and my current role is Transportation Practice Leader at WSP Michigan. I've been with ASCE since college, but have taken a more active role lately serving as Treasurer then President of the Lansing-Jackson Branch. I live in Bath with my wife Yvonne and have 2 adult daughters and 2 cats.

Our branch and board have had success achieving goals over the past few years such as updating our Branch Operating Procedures and Bylaws and most importantly, doubling the scholarship awards for two lucky MSU students! This is of course attributable to our generous sponsors; however, I'm proud of our board's role in making this happen! For my new role, I fully intend on staying active in the branch, contributing to board initiatives and activities and striving to build branch membership.



2021 Scholarships

Committee Chair – Ellen Lurie, PE

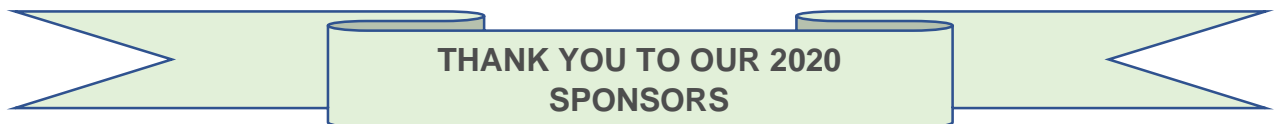
ASCE Lansing-Jackson Branch is offering up to two scholarships each worth \$1000 for Michigan State University students enrolled in the College of Engineering, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Initial judging will be made on the basis of each candidate's academic record, participation in extra-curricular activities, evidence of leadership, character, and self-reliance, and comments from employers and university officials. Preference may be given to applicants that are student members of ASCE and are active in the student chapter of ASCE.



Applications will be available in early December, with responses **due February 1, 2021**. For information, please contact Ellen Lurie, Scholarship Committee Chairperson at Ellen.Lurie@WSP.com

2020 and 2021 Sponsorships

Thank you so much to our 2020 sponsors whose generosity contributed directly to this year's Scholarships! Your logos will be advertised at various Branch events including future newsletters. We are still looking for more support for the remainder of the year and into 2021 so that we can continue awarding up to two scholarships for \$1000 each! We are asking \$300 for corporate sponsors. Please send an email to ascelanjack@gmail.com if you are interested in sponsorship and please submit your company logo if you have not already done so.



THERESE R. KLINE
— P.E., F. ASCE —

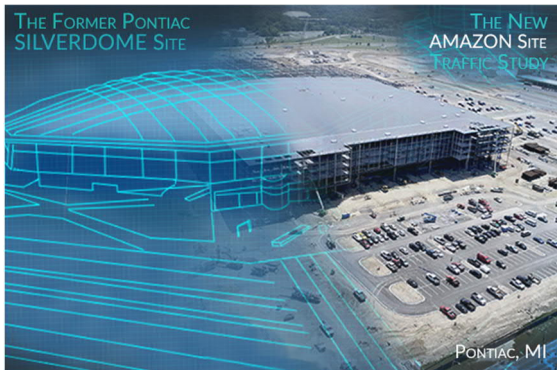


Upcoming Virtual Lunch and Learns

- **Tuesday, November 10th**

Topic: Traffic Analysis for the
Redevelopment of the Pontiac
Silverdome Site

Presented by: Mike Labadie, PE, and Jill Bauer, PE, Rowe Professional Services Company



- **Thursday, December 10th**

Topic: Tensar: GeoGrid Use in
Roadway Applications

Presented by: Paul Schmitz and James Klonowski, Tensar International Corporation



We are looking for presentations for 2021. This is a great opportunity for you to showcase your firm. Please send an email to ascelanjack@gmail.com with your topic and we'll do the rest! Lunch and learns will remain virtual until further notice.

Annual Awards Gala - POSTPONED TO 2021

Due to complexities presented by the COVID pandemic and the uncertainty in public gathering for the remainder of this year, your Board decided to postpone the 2020 Awards Gala to April 2021. We will inform you of the exact date when we get closer; however, please note the venue will continue to be *The View* at Luginuts Stadium. The awards submittals we received in 2020 will carry over into 2021. 2020 scholarship recipients have been invited to the 2021 Gala where they will be recognized alongside the 2021 recipients.

Other Events

- Social events with MSU Student Chapter - **IN THE WORKS!**
 - Field trips for Lansing - Jackson Members - **IN THE WORKS!**
 - Dream Big Movie at IMAX Theater (Lansing) - Spring 2021 for grade-school students and parent/teacher – **PENDING**
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ASCE Young Member (YM) Group

If you would like more information about the YM Group or want to learn ways that you can get involved, contact Morgan Zapata, YM President, at layp.asce@gmail.com or join the YM Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Lansing-Area-ASCE-Young-Professionals-982809235401506/>

ASCE Membership

ASCE is always looking for new members, so please reach out to your co-workers, peers, subordinates (young members!), friends, family, etc.!

Membership Advantages include:

- Insurance: High Limit Accident Insurance, Long-Term Care, Disability and Catastrophic Disability Insurance, Dental Insurance, Hospital Indemnity Plan, Pet Insurance, Life Insurance, Auto Insurance Discounts, Liability Insurance
- Discounts: Member Deals, Travel Discounts, Discounts for Vehicle Rental, Discounts for Computer Purchases
- Finance: ASCE Bank of America Cash Rewards Visa Signature credit card
- 10 FREE PDHs online each year
- Book, Journal, Articles, and Conference Paper Discounts
- Savings on the cost of Branch Lunch & Learns, webinars, industry texts, PE review course, and conference registrations

Becoming a Member

- MDOT staff contact Shirleen Buck (BuckS1@michigan.gov) to coordinate and receive a 20% discount on membership!
 - Student Member Upgrades to Licensed Engineer: FREE
 - All else, go to <https://www.asce.org/member-benefits/> and be sure to select Lansing Jackson Branch as your home chapter!
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About ASCE Lansing-Jackson Branch

We are the Lansing-Jackson Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), a non-profit international organization. ASCE's mission is to provide essential value to our members, their careers, our partners, and the public by developing leadership, advancing technology, advocating lifelong learning, and promoting the profession.

Our Branch serves members of the civil engineering profession in the counties of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Jackson, Livingston, and Shiawassee. Please contact the Lansing-Jackson Branch at ascelanjack@gmail.com, or feel free to contact any of our board members directly with any questions about any of our events, committees, activities, sponsorship, or membership.
