

# TENNESSEE SECTION NASHVILLE BRANCH FY2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Web Site Address: <http://nashvilleasce.org/younger-members/>

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|--|------------------|--|
| <b>YM Group<br/>President /<br/>Chair:</b> | <b>Name:</b>     | <b>John D. Brew, PE, M.ASCE</b>                                      |
|  | <b>Employer:</b> | Gresham, Smith & Partners  |
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Is it ok to share chair/co-chair contact information when CYM posts the two-page Annual Report summary?

Yes     No

## ANNUAL REPORT INSTRUCTIONS:

This report should summarize your YM Group's *activities* from *October 2013 to September 2014* and list your *volunteers* for *2013-2014*.

Please post your completed Report to the appropriate Region folder in eRoom at [https://eroom.asce.org/eRoom/GSD/CYM/0\\_2f351](https://eroom.asce.org/eRoom/GSD/CYM/0_2f351), which is under the YM Resources/YMG Annual Reports/FY2014 YMG Annual Reports directories, by **November 21, 2014**. Reports should be posted in MS Word format or PDF format and kept to a **maximum of 10 pages**. (*Feel free to delete these instructions and the italicized instructions below if you require more space.*)

A **two-page Summary** of your Annual Report (Word or PDF) should **also** be posted for use during the 2015 Younger Member Councils. Please indicate this file by using "summary" in the filename.

If you have any questions, please call Leslie Payne (800) 548-2723, x6364 or contact your respective CYM Member noted below:

Eastern Geographic Member (Regions 1, 2, 4, 5) – Jeremy Chrzan ([jeremy.asce@chrzan.com](mailto:jeremy.asce@chrzan.com))

Central Geographic Member (Regions 3, 6, 7) – Justin Arndt ([arndt.asce@gmail.com](mailto:arndt.asce@gmail.com))

Western Geographic Member (Regions 8, 9) – Serge Haddad ([serge.haddad@gmail.com](mailto:serge.haddad@gmail.com))

**2013-2014 OFFICERS:** *List the names, positions and number of years with the group for Officers and Committee chairs whose terms end between September 2014 and December 2014.*

|                 |                    |         |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------|
| Blake Turner    | Chair              | 3 years |
| John Brew       | Vice-Chair         | 4 years |
| Kevin McAlister | Past Chair         | 5 years |
| Luke Dixon      | Technical Director | 2 years |
| Brandon Taylor  | PE Review Director | 3 years |
| William McCloy  | Secretary          | 1 year  |
| David Perry     | Social Director    | 1 year  |

|               |                  |        |
|---------------|------------------|--------|
| Kyle McLemore | Service Director | 1 year |
|---------------|------------------|--------|

**2014-2015 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS:** *List the names, positions and # of years with the group for newly elected officers and committee chairs. Please indicate those officers that are planning to attend the 2015 Younger Member Council meetings with an asterisk.*

|                     |                     |             |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| John D. Brew        | Chair               | 5 years     |
| Brandon Taylor      | Vice-Chair          | 4 years     |
| * Blake Turner      | Past Chair          | 4 years     |
| * David Perry       | Technical Director  | 2 years     |
| Buddy Burks         | PE Review Director  | New officer |
| * Kyle McLemore     | Service Director    | 2 years     |
| William McCloy      | Social Director     | 2 year(s)   |
| Patrick O'Leary     | Secretary/Treasurer | New officer |
| Rudra Bhattacharyya | Student Outreach    | New officer |

**MEMBERSHIP**

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Total YMG Membership:     | 400 |
| Number of Active Members: | 30  |

**GENERAL MEETING STRUCTURE:**

Board members meet 9 times throughout the year to plan and organize upcoming events, review budgets, and discuss other ideas to make our YM group more successful. Typically, the Younger Member Board meets every month that the Nashville Branch board meets. Our YM board likes to meet before the Branch board, so that we can provide any feedback of our activities, and seek any input from the branch board members. The YM board meetings typically take place in the conference room of the Tennessee Engineering Center.

In addition, we typically have one social, service, or technical event per month. These usually occur after work or on the weekends. Attendance at these events range from 3 to 30.

**MOST SUCCESSFUL MEETING:**

Sherman Dixie facility tour – (approx. 30 attendees). Sherman-Dixie manufactures and markets precast concrete pipe and precast concrete storm and sanitary civil engineered systems. We were taken around the facility and shown how the precast components are produced. The tour of this facility was the most successful because so many of our YMG were in attendance. It was during business hours, a pdh and lunch was provided. There was no cost to the YMG. Mike Kusch with Sherman-Dixie hosted the event. [mkusch@shermamdixie.com](mailto:mkusch@shermamdixie.com)

## **YOUNGER MEMBER ACTIVITIES:**

1. Service Event – (10 attendees) Nashville Branch members answered the call for help by the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program by assisting with QA/QC and shopping for "forgotten angels" at their warehouse. This past Christmas, over 5,000 families were helped by the Salvation Army.
2. P.E. Review Course – (10 attendees) The Nashville Branch YMG PE Review course is a 10 week course that focuses on the major topics of the PE Exam. Classes are held one night per week, and the ASCE YMG arranged for local professionals to teach each course. It's a more affordable option for our members and provides our group with income. The course has been well attended and has had positive reviews.
3. YM Night at the Sounds – (15 attendees) A social event held at a Nashville Sounds baseball game where we rented an outfield deck and enjoyed a barbecue buffet while watching the game and socializing. Annually, this is one of our largest and most successful social events attracting over 30 attendees at times. We also hold a similar NHL hockey event annually in the winter/early spring that is very well attended.
4. Boy Scouts of America Engineering Merit Badge – (4 attendees) The Boy Scouts of America offer several badges to scouts in order for them to achieve Eagle Scout status. We held an event on a Saturday for a classroom full of young scouts who were interested in achieving their Engineering Merit Badge. We spent the day going through all of the requirements provided by BSA, so that by the end of the day the scouts could earn that particular badge. We look forward to implementing this as a regular event in our area.
5. Vanderbilt University Industry Panel – (5 attendees) We had 5 engineers setup a panel discussion at a Vanderbilt ASCE student chapter meeting. It was a question & answer format where students asked questions about the engineering industry, career, education and other things that could help them throughout college and into their career. Topics included resumes, licensure process, day to day work tasks, and the differences of working in government and private fields. We plan on holding a similar event at other universities.

## **IMPROVEMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR:**

Take a more active role in college recruitment. We have also implemented a student outreach position that will focus on grad students. They seem to be lost in between student members and younger members, so we want to make sure that we include them in all of our YMG events.

## **TECHNOLOGY:**

Information is distributed in the following ways: the Branch's newsletter (a Level Line), e-mails, Nashville Branch website and announcements at Branch meetings. We have a separate e-mail contact list from the Branch that includes members, students and non-members. Last year we updated our e-mail contact list and removed members who are no longer considered Younger Members, graduated students, and many of the non-members who don't attend Younger Member events. Our student members are always invited to join our YM events. This year, we have also created a YM Facebook page where we make event announcements and post photo from previous events.

## **FUNDING INFORMATION:**

The Nashville Branch gives us an allotment to help fund our activities. Also, the P.E. Review Course that we offer each spring is our largest and most successful fund raising events. We also give a discounted rate to ASCE members. If not already, this usually results in each class attendee becoming a member of

ASCE. We collect a small amount of money from event ticket sales, such as the hockey and baseball games.

### **NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT:**

Word of mouth is our best form of recruitment. If we get members involved, hold interesting events, usually students will become members and/or co-workers of active members will join ASCE.

### **SECTION/BRANCH INTERACTION:**

The YM Group Chair attends all Branch Board meetings and is a voting Board member. The Branch is very supportive of the YM Group's activities, as many of the Branch officers were former officers in the YM Group.

Our YMG will continue reaching out to the student chapters, recruiting new graduates, and encouraging non-members to attend all of our Younger Member events. Our best strategy for recruiting new members is to welcome them to all of our events and offering discounted rates for non-members. Also, we will strive to think of new ideas to attract new members to our YMG.

### **STUDENT INTERACTION:**

The Nashville Branch has Practitioner Advisors for each of the local universities with ASCE Student Chapters, most of who are actively involved in the YMG activities. The Practitioner Advisors inform the Student Chapters of Younger Member events and encourage attendance. We could improve our interaction by organizing an event specifically for the students or possibly provide mentoring to them. In August 2014, Kyle McLemore attended the Practitioner & Faculty Advisor Training Workshop at ASCE Headquarters in ASCE. John Brew was a featured speaker at PFATW. We hope to continue to educate our advisors to help improve our interaction and outreach to the local ASCE Student Chapters.

### **MULTI-REGION AND NATIONAL YOUNGER MEMBER MEETINGS:**

Brandon Taylor (2014 ERYMC)  
Blake Turner  
John Brew (2014 PFATW)  
Kyle McLemore (2014 PFATW)

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:**

December: Salvation Army Angel Tree volunteer day  
December: New Nashville Sounds (AAA club for the Oakland A's) baseball stadium site visit  
January 2015 ERYMC  
February Engineer's Day at the Adventure Science Center during E-Week  
Spring 2015 P.E. Review Course  
Professional Development Seminar  
Community Service Event  
Numerous happy hour social gatherings at various locations around the city  
Nashville Predators hockey game  
Nashville Sounds baseball game

### **DIVERSITY:**

Our YMG has a strong relationship with Tennessee State University, one of only eleven HBCU's (historically black colleges and universities) with an ABET accredited engineering program in the country. Tennessee State University, one of the four active student chapters within our Branch, has been listed in

U.S. News & World Report's "Guide to America's Best Colleges" for more than a dozen years, maintaining one of the highest graduation rates among the nation's historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) and the highest in the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) system.

We actively promote participation to TSU with our YMG by notifying our TSU Practitioner Advisors (John Brew and Tiffany Hines Hardison) as well as inviting TSU students (members and non-members) to all of our YMG activities. Also, one of the TSU faculty advisors (Farouk Mishu, Ph. D.) is a life member of ASCE's Nashville Branch and actively promotes participation with the Nashville Branch. The new Civil Engineering Department Head at TSU, Dr. Gouranga Banik, PE is also very active in ASCE and has shown his support for the chapter and is encouraging all Civil Engineering students to be active student members.

We will continue to seek out opportunities to schedule future events with the TSU Student Chapter and Society of Women Engineers to further promote diversity within the YMG.

#### **PRE-COLLEGE OUTREACH:**

The Nashville YMG volunteer's at the local science center on Engineer's Day, which takes place the weekend of E-Week. We setup an ASCE booth and talk to children of all ages about the Civil Engineering field. We will have a couple of activities setup, with handouts and other things from ASCE to pass out.

#### **COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS:**

The CYM Newsletter and website has been helpful. We would like to interact more with other YM groups in our region. We have discussed meeting other YM groups to do joint events.

# OPTIONAL SURVEY REPORT

## WHAT WORKS... AND WHAT DOESN'T?

*The following questions will not be counted as part of the 10-page annual report, nor considered as part of any awards judging. This Optional Survey Report will be provided directly to the Member Communities Committee (MCC) and the Committee on Younger Members (CYM) to:*

- *Identify successful programs and ideas that should be promoted;*
  - *Better understand each YMG's programming challenges and needs;*
  - *Identify Younger Member Groups requiring assistance to achieve their goals, and;*
  - *Develop solutions to connect YMGs with the resources they need.*
- **Identify two successful YMG activities and describe why they were successful.**
    1. Nashville Sounds Baseball Game Social – A lot of new faces, attendance was good, and we had a large area in the outfield to socialize/network with one another.
    2. Sherman Dixie precast concrete facility tour – Very good turnout. Informative tour with 1 pdh provided.
  - **Identify all recent unsuccessful YMG activities, including why they were unsuccessful and what would be needed to make them successful (if possible.)**
    1. Laser Tag and a few other events were cancelled due to lack of interest and schedule conflicts.
    - 2.
  - **List your YMG's top three programming interests or goals. Summarize why your YMG has elected to pursue these goals.**
    - 1.
    - 2.
    - 3.
  - **What resources are needed to assist you in reaching your future objectives? Any and all suggestions are welcome.**
    - 1.
    - 2.
    - 3.
  - **Does your YMG have any successful *Best Practices* that should be shared with other YMGs?**
    - 1.
    - 2.