

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you and your family are in good health and staying safe. As many of you are aware, Coronavirus (COVID-19) has rapidly changed over the recent weeks and caused tremendous impacts on our local communities, both nationwide and internationally. As civil engineers we hold an ethical obligation to protect and enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The Fort Worth Branch's top priority is the health and safety of our members. As a member of the of the Fort Worth Branch of ASCE Texas Section you are part of a statewide family with an abundant amount of resources. The Texas Section office is temporally closed, but they want our members to know that the Texas Section staff and leaders are here to help navigate any issues that may arise during this challenging time.

The Fort Worth Branch would like to recognize the recipients of the 2020 Fort Worth Branch ASCE Civil Engineering Scholarship. Congratulations to Karina Borisova and Jennifer Villarreal from Tarleton State University and Francisco Santiago and Mohsen Talebsafa from the University of Texas at Arlington.

This year our branch is hosting the Fort Worth-Dallas Charity Golf Tournament in October. The Charity Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at the Timarron Country Club. Registration and sponsorship opportunities are available now.

As this year's board calendar comes to an end, it is the time of year that we begin thinking about our branch's future leaders. I would like to encourage everyone to think about becoming more involved. Volunteering with ASCE offers you a great opportunity to develop both personally and professionally while creating a great professional network of friends and colleagues. If you are interested in becoming more involved please feel free to reach out to either myself or Austin Baird and we will find a place for you within ASCE.

Lastly, I would like to encourage all members to visit our website (<http://branches.asce.org/ft-worth/>), where in the resources section you can find copies of PDH certificates for past meetings you attended.

Sincerely,

Kameron Boggan

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Branch Meetings:

May 18, 2020  
Virtual Meeting  
Speaker TBA

June 15, 2020  
Location TBA  
Speaker TBA

July 2020  
ASCE FW/Dallas Joint Meeting  
Speaker TBA



# Meetings From the Previous Quarter

## **February Branch Meeting**

Location: Reata Restaurant

Speaker: Jerry Cotter of USACE

Topic: Improving Resiliency for Texas Means Improving Resiliency for the USA

Attendance: 71



## **April Branch Meeting**

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Travis Attanasio of the City of Haslet

Topic: How a City With a \$3 Million Budget Will Construct a \$50 Million Road

Attendance: 107

## **Edmund Friedman Young Engineer of the Year**



Allison Stamper was named the 2020 Edmund Friedman Young Engineer of the Year by the Fort Worth Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers. This award recognizes younger members of ASCE that exhibit outstanding contributions to the public welfare of the civil engineering profession.

Ms. Stamper holds a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering from Tarleton State University. She has been in the civil engineering profession for four years and is currently employed with Peloton Land Solutions. Peloton Land Solutions is a full service civil engineering firm that offers a range of planning, engineering, survey, hydrology and hydraulics, and environmental capabilities. Ms. Stamper serves as a hydrologist in the firm's Fort Worth office Hydraulics and Hydrology Group.

In her professional career, Allison is involved with several committees in the Fort Worth ASCE branch. She currently serves as: Social Media Chair, Younger Member Co-Chair, and Tarleton State Practitioner Advisor where she mentors the Tarleton State ASCE student chapter. Ms. Stamper looks forward to continuing to help the branch grow and succeed.

Away from work, Allison is a member of the Junior League of Fort Worth where you can catch her "yellin' and sellin'" rodeo programs at the Fort Worth Stock Show! As a part of her Junior League Member role, Allison volunteers with the Young Women's Leadership Academy. She also volunteers at the Fort Worth ISD Breakthrough Fort Worth program, which ensures students gain the confidence and academic skills necessary to succeed in academically rigorous high schools through mock interviews, college readiness preparedness, essay writing help, and so much more.

Allison also enjoys spending time with her husband, Emmanuel, their two cats, and her family.

The Fort Worth Branch congratulates Allison on this achievement and is looking forward to her continued contributions to ASCE!





# Younger Member Update



In February, the Fort Worth Branch Younger Members participated in two E-Week events at the Fort Worth Science and History museum. Both the Family Night and the Girls in STEM events were geared towards introducing kids to the world of engineering.

During the Student Symposium in March, the Fort Worth Younger Members coordinated with the Younger Members of Dallas and the UTA ASCE student chapter to host a social at Free-play Arlington. The event was originally expected to have 300 guests, however the social boasted 355 attendees with approximately 25 younger members, 25 professionals and 300 students. Attendees played unlimited arcade games and networked while enjoying food and non-alcoholic beverages.

*Follow us on social media for additional details on upcoming events. We're on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram!*

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# Tarleton State University Update

The Tarleton State University ASCE student chapter competed in the surveying, research, concrete bowling ball, concrete frisbee, and concrete canoe competitions at the 2020 Texas-Mexico Student Symposium held at the University of Texas at Arlington in March.

This was Tarleton's first year participating in the concrete canoe competition. The student chapter spent months doing research, mixing concrete, performing structural analysis and material testing, designing the canoe and mold for construction, and constructing the canoe prototype. The students felt that applying classroom knowledge in the practical situations presented by the various competitions provides a great learning opportunity. The results are in: the TSU surveying team placed second, the concrete bowling ball team placed third, the research poster/presentation placed third, and the concrete canoe tied for fifth place out of 14 schools (all of which had competed with canoes in previous years).

Tarleton State ASCE is grateful to their charitable sponsors for making their competition experience possible. The student chapter looks forward to competing again in the years to come!



# University of Texas at Arlington Update

The 2020 ASCE Texas Student Symposium took place on March 4-7 and was hosted by the UTA ASCE student chapter. Over 400 students and professionals from all across Texas and Mexico attended. The symposium allows students to showcase all of the hard work they put into the concrete canoe, concrete bowling, concrete frisbee, Blue Sky, surveying, research poster, and technical paper competitions. Participants also attend technical and career-oriented seminars, a career fair, and network with students and professionals during social events and luncheons.

This year, professionals had the opportunity to present seminars to students, recruit students at the career, and earn Professional Development Hours. They also enjoyed a lunch break featuring guest speakers Jonathan Brower of L.A. Fuess Partners and the Mayor of Arlington, Jeff Williams.

The ASCE Fort Worth Branch Younger Members organized a Thursday night social for all attendees held at Free Play Arcade in Arlington. Everyone enjoyed the classic arcade games, the food, and the networking opportunity between students and young professionals.

The Friday night social was held at UT Arlington's Brazos Park. A live band made up of UTA engineering students and alumni performed, including one of Fort Worth ASCE's UTA practitioner advisors, Karyna Uribe, as the lead singer! The social also featured carnival-style games, piñatas, and a mechanical bull.

To conclude the Symposium, the awards banquet was held at the Arlington Sheraton Hotel. Students and professionals networked and celebrated awards as the Symposium closed out with a surprise dance floor and a DJ.

An immense amount of planning went into the Student Symposium and it would not have been possible without the support of both the ASCE and Chi Epsilon Student Chapters from University of Texas Arlington and their faculty advisor, Dr. Jim Williams, who did a wonderful job hosting this year. A big thanks to the planning committee, especially Karyna Uribe and Kimberly Cornett, who stepped up and helped guide the students through this huge event. Last but not least, thank you to the wonderful judges, the ASCE Texas Section, and all the Symposium Sponsors who helped make the event possible.





# Can You Participate in Government Affairs?

By: Glenn Celerier, PE

As civil engineers we know the practice of civil engineering improves civilization, it's our reason for being. But why should engineers participate in government affairs? From the beginning of urban civilization, leaders realized they couldn't go at it alone and employed early "civil engineers" to "design" and direct infrastructure construction to improve civilizations. Much like the leaders of long ago, today's leaders can't do it alone either. Today's professional civil engineers must be proactive and work to select local, state, and national officials and assist in making sensible infrastructure decisions.

The ASCE Texas Section has a standing Government Affairs Committee to advocate for and liaison with government officials. The committee is currently working to establish a Government Affairs Committee member at each branch, submit government affairs articles for publication in the "Texas Civil Engineer," support the publication and promotion of the next Infrastructure Report Card, build relationships with legislators, and author op-ed articles for local publication.

How can you participate? First, the obvious: vote and participate in the electoral process. Select leaders who you believe can make sensible infrastructure decisions. Second, become familiar with ASCE policies, and decide which of these policies you can support. Promote these policies to local, state, or national leaders who wish to create or revise existing ordinances or legislation (ASCE publishes these policies at [https://www.asce.org/public\\_policy\\_statements/](https://www.asce.org/public_policy_statements/)). Third, create a rapport between yourself and a local elected or appointed official so they can call upon your expertise as they vote for or against infrastructure funding, ordinances, and legislation. Fourth, volunteer to serve on local advisory boards and attend public meetings. Fifth, write to your representatives in support of worthwhile infrastructure funding and legislation.

Throughout our history national, state, and local leaders consistently recognized that without civil engineers they cannot improve civilization. Our proud profession designed and supervised the construction of harbors for transoceanic vessels, canals for commercial barges, rails to move freight across the continent, interstate highways to connect cities, international airports to bridge over the oceans, and complex launch pads to explore the solar system. It's unrealistic to believe elected officials created our modern infrastructure in a vacuum; the U. S. Congress, Texas Legislature, and our city councils across Texas welcome our participation in the political debate. So, to answer the question: YES you can participate in Government Affairs!

## Continuing Education Opportunities

Obtaining Professional Development Hours to maintain PE licensure will be challenging for many of us as we face the continued uncertainty and social distancing regulations associated with COVID-19. Below are a few continuing education opportunities currently available:

- **Virtual ASCE Branch Meetings** – The Fort Worth and Dallas branches are offering monthly virtual branch meetings to provide their membership with continuing education opportunities. Visit <http://branches.asce.org/ft-worth/events> or <https://dallasasce.org/news.php>. Stay tuned to branch emails and social media accounts for more details.
- **ASCE Texas Section** – The Texas Section routinely hosts webinars which can be found here: <https://www.texasce.org/events/category/webinars/list/>
- **ASCE National Webinars** – ASCE National allows all paying members access to 10-hours of PDH webinars with over 200 on-demand webinars from which to choose. This material can be accessed here: <https://sa360.asce.org/ASCEWebApp/Benefits/Membership/Freeondemandwebinars.aspx>
- **TBPELS Ethics Webinars** – The Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors continues to host free ethics webinars on a near monthly basis. Register here: <http://www.tbpe.texas.gov/webinars.html>
- **Purchase webinars through Red Vector** – Though they are not free, Red Vector Solutions allow the purchase of webinars that count towards PDH credits. More information can be found here: <https://www.redvector.com/state-requirements/texas-engineer-continuing-education/>
- **Vendors** – Vendors continue to host online webinars that are PDH-eligible. Please visit the vendor websites or follow them on social media for more information.
- **Other Methods** – Section 1001.210 of the Texas Engineering Practice Act defines several alternative methods through which PDH credits may be obtained. The document can be found here: <https://engineers.texas.gov/downloads/lawrules.pdf>

# Section Director's Report

## Treasurer's Report

As of April 2020, the Fort Worth Branch has an account balance in good standing. 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!

Volunteer opportunities are available with the ASCE Texas Section! The Texas Section is trying to bolster its committee rosters for 2020 and beyond. We love fresh, new ideas and could always use a hand in planning, executing, and celebrating all our programs. Join our team as we advance our communities through the development of civil engineers just like you.

This opportunity is ideal for anyone who would like to get involved with the Texas Section without having to make a large time commitment. The link provided gives a brief description of each of our committees: <https://www.texasce.org/resources/volunteer/>

The ASCE Texas Student Symposium hosted by the University of Texas at Arlington in March was a great success. To read all about it and see who the winners are, visit <https://www.texasce.org/tce-news/2020-symposium-recap-unity-is-strength/>

## ASCE TEXAS CECON2020 CIVIL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

Help us Grow!! The CECON committee needs your input.

Go to <https://www.texasce.org/our-programs/cecon/> to fill out a survey, become a speaker, or sponsor THE EVENT of the year.

SEPTEMBER 23-25 / SAN MARCOS



Don't forget to renew! The perks of being an ASCE member have gotten better! Now your membership includes **10 free PDH** on-demand webinars. To see a full list of member benefits visit the ASCE website at <http://www.asce.org/member-benefits/>

<a href="http://www.asce.org/myprofile">www.asce.org/myprofile</a>	Update your contact information
<a href="http://www.asce.org/renewal">www.asce.org/renewal</a>	Membership renewal
<a href="http://www.asce.org/join">www.asce.org/join</a>	Membership applications
<a href="http://www.asce.org/cemagazine">www.asce.org/cemagazine</a>	<i>Civil Engineering</i> magazine online
<a href="http://blogs.asce.org">blogs.asce.org</a>	ASCE news online

This newsletter is distributed quarterly on the first week of February, May, August, and November. If you have any information you would like published in the newsletter, please contact Lindsay Lafferty, Newsletter Chair, at [llafferty@bhbinc.com](mailto:llafferty@bhbinc.com).

## Member Referral Program

Do you like free money?! Then refer your colleagues to ASCE! The ASCE "member get a member" program is continuing in 2020. For every new member you recruit you get a \$50 Amazon gift card! At the end of the year, the member with the most successful referrals receives a \$500 Amazon gift card! See website for more information.

<http://message.asce.org/mgam>

# Branch Sponsors



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# Branch Sponsors



For corporate sponsorships please contact Andrew Wilson, Treasurer, at [andrew.wilson@pelotonland.com](mailto:andrew.wilson@pelotonland.com).



**2019-2020**

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