

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you and your family are in good health and staying safe. As many of you are aware, COVID-19 has rapidly changed over the recent weeks and caused tremendous local, national, and international community impacts. As civil engineers we hold an ethical obligation to protect and enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The Fort Worth ASCE Branch's top priority is the health and safety of our members.

The Fort Worth Branch will continue to host our branch meetings virtually until further notice. There will be no branch meeting in August, but please be on the lookout for the September branch meeting invite. Also, please mark your calendars for 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.

I would like to thank everyone who was able to attend the virtual Fort Worth-Dallas joint branch meeting. We had a great turn out and received very positive feedback. Even though we couldn't meet in person to network and visit with the Dallas Branch members, it still was a great opportunity for continuing education. A special thank you to the City of Arlington Mayor, Jeff Williams, on a very informative presentation about the engineering and development behind Globe Life Field and the Entertainment District in Arlington. In addition, all proceeds from the Fort Worth-Dallas Joint Meeting were donated to the North Texas Food Bank. The success of this meeting is directly attributable to all the effort and input of everyone who was a part of the meeting planning, and I would like to thank everyone that stepped up to help.

As that the 2019-2020 board calendar year comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteered over the last year. Without each of you, this organization would not continue to grow and succeed. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the Fort Worth Branch, please contact Austin Baird or me for more information. We love to have fresh new faces and new ideas to continue the growth of the Fort Worth Branch. As I step down as the President, I would like to thank our membership for having faith in me to lead this branch. It was a great honor and privilege to serve as the Fort Worth ASCE Branch President. The Fort Worth Branch is in great hands with Andrew Wilson serving as the next Branch President.

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:

September 21, 2020

Virtual Meeting  
Speaker TBA

October 2020

Location TBA  
Speaker TBA

November 2020

Location TBA  
Speaker TBA



# Meetings From the Previous Quarter

## ***May Branch Meeting***

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Jake Carr of Armorock  
Polymer Concrete Structures

Topic: Polymer Concrete—Corrosion  
Proof Structures

## ***June Branch Meeting***

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Brian Barth, PE of TxDOT

Topic: TxDOT 2020 Transportation  
Program

## ***July Joint Branch Meeting With ASCE Dallas***

Location: Dallas ASCE YouTube  
Channel

Speaker: Jeff Williams of City of Ar-  
lington

Topic: Engineering & Development  
Behind Globe Life Field

## Member News



Christian Delgado bought a house in Arlington!  
She is pictured here with her husband and her  
dog, Rufus. Congratulations Christian!

Andrew Wilson welcomed a daughter, Ellie  
Helen Wilson, on May 13, 2020, weighing  
in at 6 pounds 15 ounces. Congratulations  
Andrew!



# University of Texas at Arlington Update



Ally Auger is the new ASCE President for the UTA student chapter. She and her team are working hard planning for the new academic year. The ASCE officers are utilizing Teams to hold several officer meetings and are working on their sponsorship packets. UTA ASCE is making the best of the current situation and is participating in freshman orientations through Teams as well. The UTA Concrete Canoe team is taking advantage of their newly-found free time by planning for this year's canoe races and meeting with past canoe captains to help pass on all the knowledge.



## Tarleton State University Update

Tarleton State University's fall 2020 semester will take place with in-person instruction on campus. TSU is working to create a safe place to learn for students by implementing regulations. There will be quick access to free testing on campus as TSU will receive approximately 1,300 test kits each month. We can't wait to hear how the Tarleton ASCE Student Chapter will prevail through this time!



## Volunteers Needed!

It is time to start thinking of ASCE Fort Worth Leaders that would be great at the Texas Section Level as an Officer. The Section Level officer positions are listed on the website at <https://www.texasce.org/resources/volunteer>. If you know of such a leader, please contact Kimberly Cornett, P.E., CFM, F. ASCE at [kcornett@obrieneng.com](mailto:kcornett@obrieneng.com) with your nomination.

## ASCE YOUNGER MEMBERS



# WE MISS YOU!!

We hope you all are staying safe! We can't wait to start planning our Younger Member events! If you have any virtual event ideas or if you would like to showcase the fun, creative ways you, your pets, or family and friends are surviving the pandemic, send your pictures to [allison.stamper@pelotonland.com](mailto:allison.stamper@pelotonland.com). Also, follow us on social media for details on upcoming events. We're on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram!

# Get to Know the Incoming President!

Andrew Wilson will serve as the ASCE Fort Worth Branch President for the 2020-2021 board year. Here are a few facts about Andrew to help you get to know him a little better!



**What initially sparked your interest in civil engineering?** My father was a scientist, always encouraging and challenging me to pursue a similar path. I loved to figure out how things work and how to fix them; I enjoy solving problems. A close family friend found out I was interested in engineering and offered me an internship at the civil engineering company he started. After that I was sure I wanted to pursue civil engineering.

**What is your favorite or most challenging project you've worked on?** The most challenging and favorite project I worked on is the stream restoration for Blue Stem Park in Fort Worth. We removed a 9 acre lake with a dam to restore the natural channel as it sat before. The channel is just outside my office and I get to drive over it each day I come to the office.

**What is the most valuable advice you've received so far in your career?** Work hard and don't quit.

**Where is your ideal vacation spot?** A cabin in the mountains with my family away from civilization.

**What do you like to do in your free time?** Spend time with family tinkering in the shop.

**What is an interesting fact about you that most people don't know?** I race in obstacle course races and stood on my first podium (3rd overall) just before COVID-19 shut the races down. This was supposed to be my best year.

**What are you most looking forward to this year serving as the FW ASCE president?** I'm looking forward to the opportunity to meet new people and to help further grow the Fort Worth Branch.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Happy ASCE Day!

*A Celebration of Civil Engineers*

**November 5, 2020**

Celebrate ASCE Day this year by having your company post a video of their ASCE members saying "Happy ASCE Day!" with the hashtags #ascefortworth and #asceday. ASCE Day supports ASCE Younger Member programs to provide leadership training and advanced technical skills.

## Infrastructure Report Card

Our 50+ member-committee is in the process of collecting and compiling available state-wide data, developing a written summary for each category, and analyzing the available information to assign a grade based on ASCE's pre-determined criteria. ASCE provides a number of tools and templates to help with the development of state report cards. The final Texas report card will be reviewed by ASCE's Committee on America's Infrastructure. Check out the website for more information. <https://www.texasce.org/our-programs/infrastructure-report-card/>

# Virtual Interview Tips

By: Keval Satra, PE

The coronavirus outbreak has brought about radical change in the way companies operate, and the “virtual interview” has become the new norm in hiring of talent.

Here are six tips that will help you ace your virtual interview:

## 1. Check your technology

Make sure that your internet connection, microphone and camera are working at least 30 minutes before the interview. Keep your username simple and professional because this will be your very first impression to the hiring team. Make sure the laptop or tablet you are using is fully charged and pick a spot that has strong Wi-Fi. Avoid using a smartphone for video interviews if possible.

## 2. Create an interview setup

Create a professional interview setup; tidy up your surroundings in order to avoid distractions. Sit in front of the window or in front of a plain wall so that you are the focal point of the conversation. Sit at optimal distance from the computer to avoid close focus on just your face; ideally the upper part of your torso should be visible. Look at your device’s camera during the interview instead of looking at people (or different corners of your screen).

## 3. Eliminate distractions

Let people you might be sharing the interview space with know about the virtual interview in advance. Request that they not disturb you in that given time frame. Silence your mobile phone, turn off the TV, and close the windows to muffle neighborhood noise. If after all this effort there is still some unnecessary noise, do not shy away on using the mute button in case of emergency. Apologize to the interviewer(s) about the unforeseen circumstance and improvise accordingly.

## 4. Dress professionally

Your choice of business attire should be same as what you would choose to wear in a face-to-face interview. Getting all suited up will make you feel more prepared and confident.

## 5. Prepare ahead of time

Prepare some pointers, examples and results for each element on your resume. It also helps to prepare for some common questions, such as: Tell me something about yourself? What are your strengths/weaknesses?

Prepare but do not memorize any answers. You want to speak in a conversational

## THE TEXAS SECTION OFFERS MONTHLY WEBINARS FOR THOSE NEEDED PDH'S!

Each month on the 2nd Tuesday, a technical webinar is offered by the Texas Section. New pricing is now in effect; sign up now! <https://www.texasce.org/our-programs/webinars/>

tone. Practice nonverbal cues such as a nod, smile or hand gestures to show that you are engaged. Finish all your answers with a conclusion or a signal that indicates you completed your answer to avoid awkward long pauses in the conversation.

## 6. Practice to win

Mock interviews are the best way to test your preparedness and technology. The most efficient way to do a mock interview is to ask a reliable person, like your peers, friends, career counselors or someone in your professional network, to conduct your mock interview and seek feedback from the interviewer on your video and audio quality.

As a job seeker, your goal with the virtual interview is the same as that of a face-to-face interview – to show that you are the best fit for the job position. I am confident that if you follow these six steps you will be able to ace your virtual interview. Happy job hunting!



MONDAY, OCTOBER  
19TH, 2020

- Individual \$100\*/\$150  
Single Gopher
- Foursome \$350\*/\$450  
Four Player Team
- Award Banquet \$35\*/\$40  
Lunch Only (Non-Golfer)

Register by October 12th to receive  
the advanced registration discount!

**Timarron  
Country Club**

1400 Byron Nelson PKWY  
Southlake, TX 76092  
For More information Contact:  
Florencia Rangel  
frangel@tnpinc.com

**2020  
Charity Golf  
Tournament**

PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS UTA AND TSU CIVIL  
ENGINEERING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

**For Registration:**  
<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?Reg?oeidk=a07egxkml4n1b3668a58oseq=&c=&ch=>

**For Sponsorship:**  
<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?Reg?oeidk=a07egxov42z4ec0de628oseq=&c=&ch=>

# Civil Engineering on the Ballot

By: Glenn Celerier, PE

This presidential election is setting up to be a contrast between two candidates like few others we've seen in our lifetime. But all the attention on the presidential race can obscure the numerous down ballot legislative elections that are just as important since legislators authorize funding and enact legislation.

Because our work is essential to keeping a civil society functioning, it's logical for us take interest in a candidate's position regarding various issues as one of many deciding factors we use for casting a ballot in favor or against an incumbent.

In an effort to help members focus on critical national and state issues, the ASCE Public Policy Committee and the ASCE Board of Direction identified the following federal and state issues for 2020.

The Federal issues are: *Civil Engineering Education (Higher Education), Clean Water, Drinking Water and Wastewater Issues, Natural Hazards Mitigation & Infrastructure Security, Qualifications Based Selection for Engineering Services, Research and Development Funding, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education & Support (K-12), Sustainability, and Transportation Infrastructure.*

The State issues are: *Continuing Education & Licensing, Natural Hazards Impact Mitigation & Infrastructure Security, Qualifications-Based Selection for Engineering Services, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education & support (K-12), State Support for Civil Engineering (Higher Education), Sustainability, and Transportation Infrastructure Financing.*

How the candidate promotes or ignores any of these issues may help you decide who to support.

Still undecided on how you might vote? ASCE provides public policy statements on the ASCE Website at [https://www.asce.org/public\\_policy\\_statements/](https://www.asce.org/public_policy_statements/). To promote ASCE's goals the ASCE Board of Direction adopted official Policy Statements over time on major issues of interest to the civil engineering community and the impact upon our nation. There are more than 150 statements covering topics ranging from dams to transportation issues.

There are also other topics you might not have considered such as: *Education, Energy, Engineering Practice, Government, Hazardous And Solid Waste, Legal Reform, Licensure, Procurement/Contract Issues, Public Involvement, Quality/Standards, Research, Safety, Space, and Taxes.*

Browsing these statements may help you look at situations from a new point of view and sway your vote.

Between now and November, take interest in the political conversations and listen to how the candidates respond to the issues that affect our vocation. Their position could have lasting impacts on the civilized infrastructure and how the environment is constructed, operated, and maintained.

## 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:

- **Texas CECON 2020**—Texas ASCE will host its flagship conference, CECON, in San Marcos from September 23-25. This forum presents a great opportunity to gain industry insights, network, and obtain continuing education credits. See advertisement on page 6 for more details.
- **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>
- **Texas Floodplain Management Association**—TFMA is hosting a series of virtual webinars including a 2-day virtual conference in September. Find more information at <https://www.tfma.org>

# Section Director's Report

## Treasurer's Report

As of July 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!

The ASCE Leadership Development Weekend was held July 17-19, 2020 at Canyon of the Eagles Resort. The Executive Committee met on Friday afternoon to discuss some tough planning decisions for the remaining 2020 year. President Elect Sean Merrell is ready to lead the ASCE team into 2021 by adapting to the changing world, achieving success, and advancing members' careers by taking full advantage of what ASCE has to offer the profession. The in-person option was attended by about 20 leaders of the Section and the virtual option was attended by 16 leaders of various branches. Fort Worth ASCE President Kameron Boggan attended the virtual meeting and Section Director Kimberly Cornett attended the in-person option to represent the Fort Worth Branch. Fort Worth Branch member and Texas Section VP Technical Affairs Elect Robert "Bob" Stevens presented on "Making Tough Decisions" as many of us as leaders have already faced and will continue to face this year in our lives, professions, and our organizations.



Currently, the logistics of CECON are being evaluated and options such as "virtual" are being considered. Continue checking [www.texascecon.org](http://www.texascecon.org) for updates. The ASCE Section leaders are working hard to make the tough decisions presented them with the current situation.

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

As of July 17, The ASCE Fort Worth Branch is leading in the member-get-a-member program! Did you know that referrals count in the friendly competition too? All you have to do is click the link and refer five people to be members in ASCE. ASCE will do the rest. If they join, they get 25% off of initial membership and you get a \$50 Amazon gift card. Refer a friend here: <http://message.asce.org/mgam>

# Branch Sponsors



BAIRD, HAMPTON & BROWN, INC.  
ENGINEERING & SURVEYING





# Branch Sponsors



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

2019-2020

# Fort Worth Branch Officers & Committee Chairs

## **PRESIDENT**

Kameron Boggan, EIT  
*kaboggan@transystems.com*

## **VICE PRESIDENT/TREASURER**

Andrew Wilson, PE  
*andrew.wilson@pelotonland.com*

## **PAST PRESIDENT**

Austin Baird, PE  
*abaird@bhbinc.com*

## **ASSISTANT TREASURER/AUDIT**

Andrea Taylor, PE  
*ataylor@mmatexas.com*

## **SECRETARY**

Jeff Philipp, PE  
*jphilipp@tnpinc.com*

## **DIRECTORS**

Johnathan Zimmerer, PE  
*jzimmerer@ferrovial.us*

Derek Baker, EIT  
*dbaker@pkce.com*

## **YOUNGER MEMBER CHAIRS**

Allison Stamper  
*allison.stamper@pelotonland.com*

Amanda Quisenberry, EIT  
*amanda.quisenberry@aguirre-fields.com*

## **TEXAS SECTION DIRECTOR**

Kimberly Cornett, PE  
*kcornett@obrieneng.com*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Brandon Oliver, PE  
*boliver@pkce.com*

## **SPECIAL MTG ARRANGEMENTS**

Maria Frias, EIT  
*mfrias@bhbinc.com*

## **PROGRAM**

Andrew Wilson, PE  
*andrew.wilson@pelotonland.com*

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Niraj Acharya, PE  
*nacharya@tnpinc.com*

## **HISTORICAL**

## **HOSPITALITY**

Steve Briceno, EIT  
*sbriceno@transystems.com*

## **TSU PRACTITIONER ADVISORS**

Brandon Oliver, PE  
*boliver@pkce.com*

Allison Stamper  
*allison.stamper@pelotonland.com*

## **WEBMASTER/EMAIL COORD**

Christian Delgado  
*cdelgado@tnpinc.com*

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Allison Stamper  
*allison.stamper@pelotonland.com*

## **ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

Lindsay Lafferty, EIT  
*llafferty@bhbinc.com*

## **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Glenn Celerier, PE  
817-465-7084

## **NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS/ AWARDS**

Austin Baird, PE  
*abaird@bhbinc.com*

## **OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

Angie Fealy, EIT  
*angie.fealy@jacobs.com*

## **UTA PRACTITIONER ADVISORS**

Karyna Uribe, EIT  
*kuribe@dunawayassociates.com*

Derek Baker, EIT  
*dbaker@pkce.com*