

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The spring rains are in full swing and the summer heat is fast approaching. I hope that each of y'all have some exciting activities planned while the weather is good. Hold a barbecue with friends or just take a walk in the park with your family. It's important for us as engineers not to lose touch with friends and family; they are the ones we should treasure the most.

COVID-19 is slowly making an exit here in Texas, but the Fort Worth Branch is still meeting online. We have not yet received the "all clear" from ASCE Global, but when we do we will be sure to let our branch members know. I, for one, am ready to meet again in person, network, and share a meal together.

We are pleased to announce that the Fort Worth Branch is working with Abilene Christian University (ACU) to help begin their student chapter! ACU is located about 150 miles west of DFW and offers a degree in general engineering. Although ACU does not offer a specific Civil Engineering degree, we are excited they are putting forth the work to begin their ASCE student chapter.

This year, the Fort Worth Branch is hosting the joint branch meeting with the Dallas Branch. This meeting will be held on July 16th and hosted online. We will have technical presentations, a key-note speaker, and an ethics presentation. You won't want to miss the joint meeting, as it will be chock-full of valuable content providing well sought after PDHs. Please be on the lookout for more details in the coming weeks.

Everybody stay safe and healthy!

Regards,

Andrew Wilson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Branch Meetings:

May 2021

Virtual Meeting
Speaker TBA

June 2021

Virtual Meeting
Speaker TBA

July 16, 2021

ASCE FW/Dallas Joint Meeting
Speaker TBA



Meetings From the Previous Quarter

March Branch Meeting

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Ron Reichert of AmeriTex Pipe & Products

Topic: Proper Storm Drainage Pipe Installation and the Engineer's Responsibilities

Attendance: 35

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April Branch Meeting— Joint SAME Meeting

Location: Virtual WebEx Meeting

Speaker: Elliot McConnell

Topic: Cybersecurity Expectations for Control Systems (HVAC, Fire/MNS, ESS, Lighting, etc.)

Attendance: 97

Mentor's Minute

By: Wayne E. Fowler, PE, Principal, Teague Nall and Perkins

Earl Thomas grew up in Orange, Texas. Generations of his family called the small town on the Sabine River home. That family produced a special kind of giver - a connector.



After high school Thomas played football for the Texas Longhorns. In 2010 he began the first of nine seasons with the Seattle Seahawks and won a Super Bowl in the 2013 post-season. But he never left Orange. He conducted football camps and invited other NFL players to help, inspiring youngsters to achieve. He chartered busses for the community to attend the high school football state championship. He provided meals for Thanksgiving, and coats for winter. His parents and grandparents left him a legacy of giving.

Orange is about 25 miles from the Gulf Coast and has seen its share of suffering from hurricanes. In 2017, Harvey devastated Orange. One of the largest measured storms in history, it left behind a trail of debris. Once again Thomas stepped up, inviting his VIP friends to the Orange cleanup and rebuild effort. One community leader said, "I got a call from Bun B. He said Earl had given him my number," talking about the famed rapper from nearby Port Arthur. "I couldn't believe it. Earl gathered so many resources."

Do you see what happened here? It's not just that Thomas is a giver. He is a connector. He leverages what and who he knows to connect resources to the need. The Go Giver (Burg and Mann) explores that idea. It is a little story about a powerful business idea. In the story when Joe learns that Gus has been an effective connector, he says, "You love talking with people, finding ways you can help them, serve them, fill a need, share a resource..."

Being a giver means being a connector. When you hear of a need you can't meet, offer a resource that can. Who can help someone learn a new skill or find a new job? Who just started a business that needs customers you know? Do you need to connect a client to another firm that has the skill or availability yours doesn't? Could a client learn something from another client of yours?

You don't have to be a successful NFL player to be a giver. Sometimes, giving just means connecting. That's what leaders do. That's what authentic people do.

EIT Spotlight: Derek Baker

This section highlights the EIT journey and viewpoints from budding future civil engineers. This issue features **Derek Baker, PE**, who is no longer an EIT as he recently earned his engineering license and was promoted to Project Manager. Congratulations Derek! Here are a few facts to help you get to know him a little better!

What company do you work for?
Pacheco Koch Consulting Engineers, Inc. in the transportation engineering field.

What is your role in ASCE? I am currently the Fort Worth branch secretary and UTA practitioner advisor.

What college did you attend?
UT Arlington



What brought you to the civil engineering profession and ASCE? I was fortunate to meet an organization of civil engineering professionals (UTA alumni) who were offering a scholarship to UTA for civil engineering. I knew I was interested in engineering, but I wasn't sure what I wanted to focus on. This organization led me to UTA where I began studying civil engineering; my professor sparked my interest in ASCE, and I started my involvement as a sophomore. I never grew tired of ASCE and was active as president and concrete canoe captain during my time at UTA.

What is something you see changing in the industry? I see technology constantly changing in the transportation industry. Currently we still submit plans both printed/digital. Eventually, TxDOT will require only a model that is reviewable and even usable for the contractor.

What would you like to learn from PE's or mentors? The most important thing that I am continually learning is the characteristics of a leader. I would like to learn more from higher PE's on how they approach conflict resolution and internal issues. I know a lot of skills will/can be picked up on the job, so I try to absorb as much as I can from my mentors.

Did you have any internships? How did that aid your career? I had multiple internships that focused on different aspects of transportation engineering. I feel these internships gave me a rich perspective on how an office functions on a daily basis. Looking back, the differences between engineering firm's values seem more clear. I have more appreciation for my own company when I compare against the values of other firms. Upon graduating, I had a head start on CAD when I started at PK.

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. Also, follow us on social media for details on upcoming events. We're on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram!

PE Spotlight: Andrew Wilson

This section highlights the PE journey and provides insight for young engineers into the rewarding opportunities of a career in civil engineering. This issue features Andrew Wilson, PE—here are a few facts to help you get to know him a little better!



Where and in what field of civil engineering do you work? Peloton Land Solutions as a hydrologist.

What is your role in ASCE? I am currently the president of the Fort Worth Branch.

What college did you attend? UT Arlington

What brought you to the civil engineering profession? 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, and 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 brought you to ASCE? I served as an officer in my student chapter while at UT Arlington. After graduation, Clint Hoover, who was an ASCE Branch officer at the time, reached out to me and got me involved at the branch level.

What are some lessons learned in your career you wish you learned earlier on? I wish I learned the value of time earlier—not putting off what could be done now.

What software/programs do you frequently use or recommend for young engineers to learn? Since I am a hydrologist, I regularly use the

U.S. Army Corp software HEC-RAS and HEC-HMS to model the characteristics of hydraulics and hydrology.

Is there a project from your career you would like to share? My first project I worked on was a stream restoration project in the Alliance Town Center area. We removed a large dam and restored the channel back to its original characteristics while protecting the upcoming development from flood waters.

What aspects of the civil engineering field have you seen evolve over the last few years and what do you think will change in the future? The engineering world is constantly evolving with new/updated software, new field technology, new governmental policies, and the consumer needs to account for the ever expanding population. This is why we engineer, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The more the public grows and changes, the better we as engineers have to become.

Do you know someone who is doing a great job volunteering with ASCE and representing the core values of the society?

Now is the time to nominate them for an award! Nominations are due May 15th.

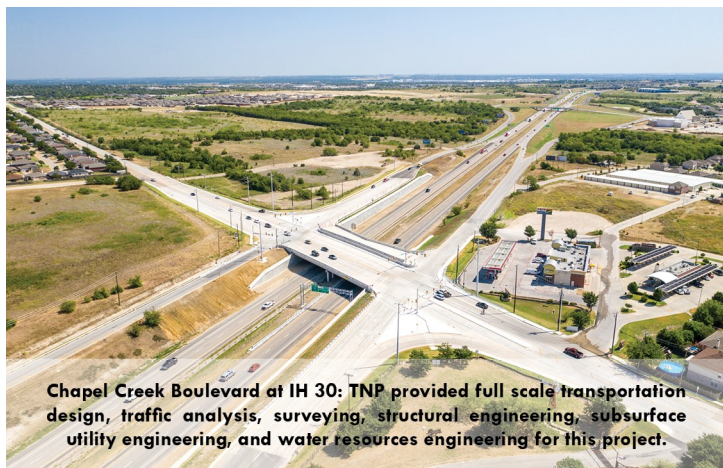
<https://www.texasce.org/resources/history/awards-honors/>

Company Corner: Teague Nall & Perkins

This section highlights current civil engineering projects designed by companies in the DFW area. This issue features TNP, who led the design of a new six lane bridge for Chapel Creek Boulevard over IH 30 in west Fort Worth (pictured below). The existing 2-lane bridge created a significant bottleneck for the adjoining four lane urban collector located in west Fort Worth. As part of the project, TNP designed the main vehicular bridge, a turnaround bridge, frontage road improvements, retaining walls, traffic signals, and drainage system improvements. Their team prioritized a design that accommodated bicycle and pedestrian mobility.



engineers ▲ surveyors ▲ landscape architects



Chapel Creek Boulevard at IH 30: TNP provided full scale transportation design, traffic analysis, surveying, structural engineering, subsurface utility engineering, and water resources engineering for this project.



Prosper ISD Children's Health Stadium: TNP served as the lead engineer for this award winning project. Services included civil/site design, structural engineering, landscape architecture, surveying, subsurface utility engineering, and water resources engineering.



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Student Chapter Updates: TSU and UTA

Tarleton State's ASCE student chapter is actively working to keep student members involved and excited about being a part of the chapter during these difficult times. The student chapter held biweekly officer meetings as well as biweekly general student meetings to ensure they stayed connected to their members. Although TSU's student chapter did not participate in the ASCE Student Symposium this year, they focused on student recruitment and fundraising. TSU ASCE held fundraising events and created fundraising packets to send out to local stores and industry connections. The student chapter also held movie nights at the university planetarium and are hoping to continue that tradition in the years to come.

As a small student chapter, their main goal is to recruit more underclassmen and encourage continued participation and commitment to ASCE. This is a difficult task due to COVID pushing many students to virtual platforms. However, TSU ASCE thinks recruitment next fall will be easier when things return in-person. Additionally, the student chapter hopes to continue their fundraising efforts in the fall to ensure the necessary funds to participate in the 2022 Student Symposium.



Members from TSU's ASCE student chapter at their s'mores homecoming social.

We are looking forward to hearing from UTA's ASCE student chapter and learning about their recent progress!



Continuing Education Opportunities

Continuing Education opportunities continue to occur mostly in a virtual setting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We are hopeful that the continued proliferation of the COVID-19 vaccine will result in our ability to host branch meetings and other continuing education opportunities. Until that time, we continue to urge our members to seek out virtual PDH opportunities. A list of some opportunities is presented below.

- **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 is now hosting webinars twice a month! A listing 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>
- **TSPE Local Chapters** – TSPE's DFW-area chapters continue to host virtual meetings on a monthly basis. Visit each chapter's website for more information.

Section Director's Update



ASCE Texas Section Networking Shuffle—June 2021!

What is a networking shuffle? You will be paired with one of your fellow ASCE Texas members to virtually meet, chat and get to know one another. It's a simple but powerful way to bring people together and create new connections. This program aims to foster better connectivity and new relationships between our various ASCE Texas branches.

How does it work? Go to <https://www.texasce.org/our-programs/ym-networking/> and complete the sign-up form by Friday, May 14th. Each quarter you'll be matched with someone outside of your branch/discipline based on your interests and invited to get to know one another. You will receive your first pairing on Tuesday, June 1st, and will set up a time to meet virtually before the next quarter. Enrollment will not be continuous, so be on the look out for each quarter's enrollment notification.

ASCE Texas Section Younger Member Networking Shuffle

REGISTER BY MAY 14.
PAIRS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 1.

Presented by
ASCE Texas Section's Younger Member Committee

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/>

www.asce.org/myprofile	Update your contact information
www.asce.org/renewal	Membership renewal
www.asce.org/join	Membership applications
www.asce.org/cemagazine	<i>Civil Engineering</i> magazine online
blogs.asce.org	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.

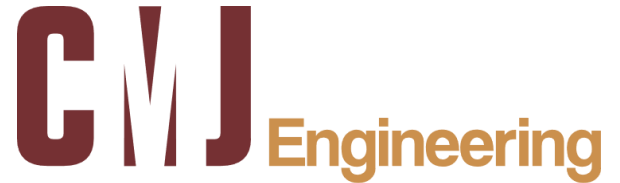
Member Referral Program

All you have to do is click the link and refer up to five people to join ASCE. ASCE will do the rest. If your referrals join, they get 50% off their initial membership dues and you get a \$50 Amazon gift card. At the end of the year, the member with the most successful referrals will get a \$500 Amazon gift card! Refer a friend here: <http://message.asce.org/mgam>

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For corporate sponsorships please contact Jeff Philipp, Treasurer, at jphilipp@tnpinc.com.

2020-2021

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