



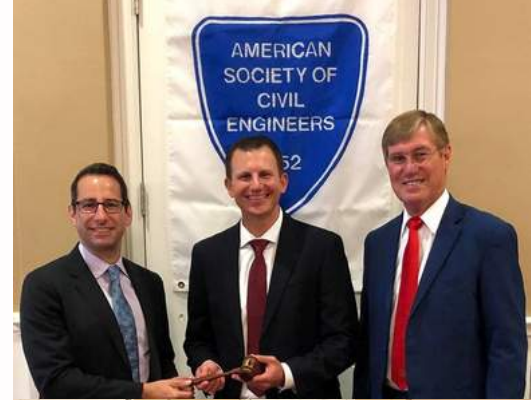
TEXAS SECTION  
Austin Branch

# ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

*DECEMBER 2022*

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY PAUL HAHN, P.E.



Happy holiday season, everyone!

Please join us at our next luncheon on December 20, where we'll hear from Virginia Essary, an Investigator in the Compliance & Enforcement Department of TBPELS, who will provide our annual Professional Practice update and Ethics review.

Please help me congratulate a couple members of the ASCE Austin Branch! Geoffrey Roberts is the winner of the 2022 Texas Section Award of Honor, and Sharon Hamilton is the winner of the 2022 Texas Section Service to People Award. Way to go, y'all!

Nominations for the ASCE Austin Branch 2023 Garabed A. Harutunian Civil Engineer of the Year Award are due January 6th, 2023. Now is the time to think about the many wonderful engineers that serve the Austin Branch and the civil engineering profession and show them your appreciation by nominating them for the Austin Branch Engineer of the Year Award. Surely you know someone deserving to be considered for this award. Please reach out to [David.Matocha@rinkerpipe.com](mailto:David.Matocha@rinkerpipe.com) for a nomination form, if you have any questions, or for help you with your nomination.

The Legislative Drive-In, here in Austin, is coming up soon. This event is your opportunity to join an inside look at the public policy process and to interact directly with state congressional staff. This year's Drive-In will take place towards the end of February; stay tuned for more info about application deadline and the official event date.

Finally, the Austin Branch is always looking for eager volunteers to help organize and execute our events and you can connect with me or any other Board member to get involved. Specifically, our Branch needs help with the newly formed Texas State ASCE Student Chapter. If you have thoughts or recommendations, I'd be more than happy to hear about them, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at (512) 609-1526 or [president@austinasce.org](mailto:president@austinasce.org).

Thanks everyone, see you at the next luncheon!

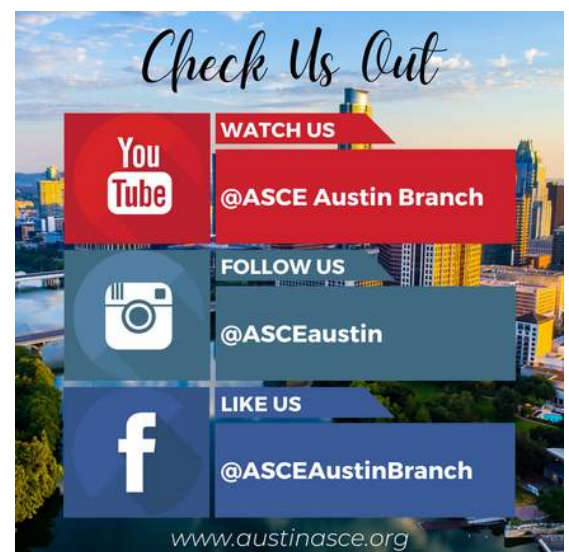
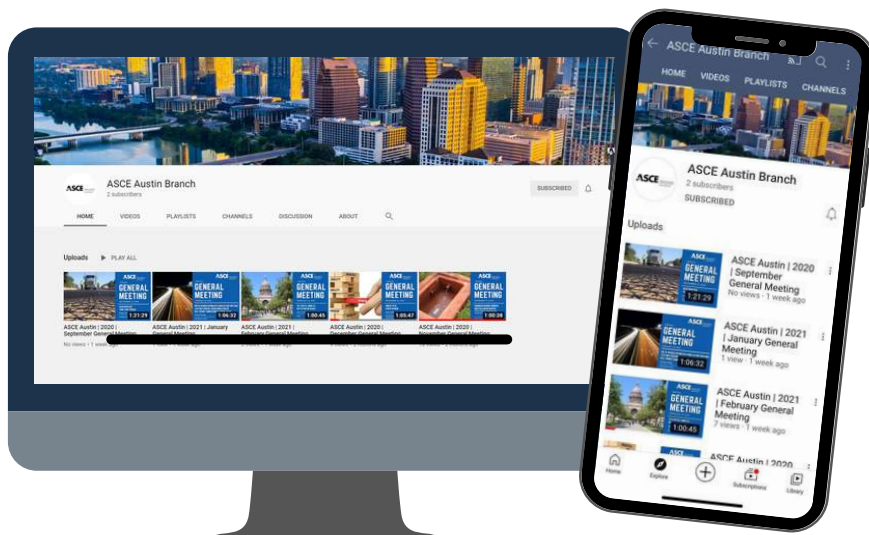
Sincerely,  
Paul Hahn, P.E.  
ASCE Austin Branch President

# UPCOMING EVENTS

12/15/22	ASCE YMF Trail of Lights
12/20/22	ASCE Austin Branch December Meeting
1/9/23	Nominations for the ASCE Austin Branch 2023 Garabed A. Harutunian Civil Engineer of the Year Award
1/14/23	ASCE Texas Section Winter Executive Committee Meeting
1/17/23	ASCE Austin Branch January Meeting
2/20/23	Joint Org E-Week Networking Happy Hour
Late Feb	2023 State Legislative drive-In

## AUSTIN BRANCH YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Did you miss a past meeting? Don't sweat it! You can now watch past virtual meetings on our YouTube channel. Click [here](#) to check out the YouTube page, and click below to view the following meeting recordings:





# DECEMBER BRANCH MEETING

BY KAT LAUER, P.E.

## REGISTRATION

REGISTER BY 12/16 AT 12PM

- ▶ DATE | 12/20/2022, 11:30am - 1:00pm
- ▶ LOCATION | Balcones Country Club  
Zoom Virtual Meeting
- ▶ LINK | [Click here for In Person](#)  
[Click here for Virtual](#)

## MEETING TOPIC

**TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS - PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE UPDATE/ETHICS**

Please join us for our December Branch Meeting. Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors – Professional Practice Update/Ethics: Updates on engineering and surveying ethics and Code of Conduct, Board Activities, rule and statutory changes, and general updates on Board initiatives.

## MEET THE SPEAKER

Virginia Essary started her investigative career with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors in September of 2012 – starting as an Investigator I and working her way up to Investigator IV in the Compliance & Enforcement Department. Prior to joining the Board, Virginia worked with the Texas Department of Public Safety in Austin, Texas. She is a native of Austin, Texas, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Political Science with a minor in Economics from Texas State University.



Virginia Essary

THANK YOU TO THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR!



# 2022 ENGINEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

BY PAUL HAHN, P.E. & DAVID MATOCHA

Nominations for the 2023 Austin Branch Garabed A. Harutunian Engineer of the Year Award are due January 9, 2023. The winner will be announced as part of the Engineer's Week festivities in February. Think about the many wonderful engineers that serve the Austin Branch and the civil engineering profession and show them your appreciation by nominating them for the Austin Branch Garabed A. Harutunian Engineer of the Year Award. The past winners of this award are literally a "Who's Who" of the Austin civil engineering community. Surely you know someone deserving to be considered for this award.



The ASCE Austin Branch 2022 Engineer of the Year is Tyler Dube, P.E., Congratulations again Tyler! Click [here](#) to learn more about Tyler and his accomplishments.

To nominate someone for the 2023 Engineer of the Year, you can find more information and the nomination form [here](#). You can also reach out to David Matocha, [David.Matocha@rinkerpipe.com](mailto:David.Matocha@rinkerpipe.com) for a nomination form or if you have any questions.

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## SEEKING ASCE UT-AUSTIN MENTORS

BY MARCELO F. DASILVA, PH.D., PE



**The University of Texas at Austin**  
**Civil, Architectural and**  
**Environmental Engineering**  
*Cockrell School of Engineering*

The Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering is recruiting volunteers from the ASCE Austin Branch to serve as mentors for seniors in the civil engineering program. Serving as a mentor is an excellent opportunity to assist with public service projects in our community, identify potential new hires for your company, get your company name out in the local community, and earn three professional development hours (PDHs) for licensure.

Mentors of all experience levels and backgrounds are welcome!

If you are interested in serving as a mentor, or would like to learn more, please contact Marcelo DaSilva, ([utmentoring@austinasce.org](mailto:utmentoring@austinasce.org)).

# KEALING ENGINEERING BLITZ

BY NICHOLAS RICHMAN, P.E.



The Kealing Middle School Engineering Blitz was a resounding success this year - thanks to all the volunteers who helped lead our blitz contests.



In person for the first time since lockdown, 35 ASCE Volunteers showed up over two days to lead 6th graders in engineering activities during their advisory period class. About 300 students participated in competitions to see which team of 6th graders could build the tallest tower out of cups and popsicle sticks or the strongest paper bridge that could hold up some heavy-duty bolts and washers.

All the students received participation prizes (color change pencils!) and the winning teams were awarded ASCE Future Engineer sunglasses. The volunteers also spent time talking with the students about what civil engineers do and what role they play in the community.

We had great participation from the students, some of whom built towers up to 53 inches high and feedback from students on the second day indicating that students were talking about the event.



Keep your ears open for more K-12 Outreach in the springtime and get in touch with Nick Richman ([nrichman@hntb.com](mailto:nrichman@hntb.com)) if you'd like to volunteer at the Engineering Blitz next year!

A special thanks to program coordinator Nathalie Ordoñez with AISD who helped organize the event.





# ASCE TEXAS SECTION AWARDS

BY LAURA FRIELLO, P.E.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AUSTIN BRANCH 2022 ASCE TEXAS SECTION AWARD RECIPIENTS



2022 AWARD OF HONOR RECIPIENT  
Geoffrey D. Roberts, A.M.ASCE

2022 SERVICE TO PEOPLE AWARD RECIPIENT  
Sharon Hamilton PE, LEED AP, ENV SP

You can find out more about Geoffrey and Sharon's accomplishments at the ASCE Texas Section [website](#).

# ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH SCHOLARSHIPS

BY REID JOHNSON, E.I.T., M.B.A. AND BRETT NOBLE, E.I.T.

2023 ASCE Austin Branch Scholarship applications are open. Scholarships will be in the amount of \$2500, \$1500, and \$1000. Applications can be found on the [website](#).

Requirements are:

- Enrolled at UT Austin or Texas State
- Sophomore, Junior or Senior
- A member of the school's chapter of ASCE
- Must be submitted by noon on March 3rd

Reach out to [scholarships@austinasce.org](mailto:scholarships@austinasce.org) for any questions.



## 2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE DRIVE-IN

Be on the lookout for the upcoming Legislative Drive-in--the event will occur in late February 2023 at the state capital right here in Austin, Texas, and applications will open soon!

This full-day event coincides with the upcoming State Legislative Session and will include:

- Briefing session to learn about ASCE's legislative priorities
- Training session
- Networking events
- Meetings with Congress and Staff



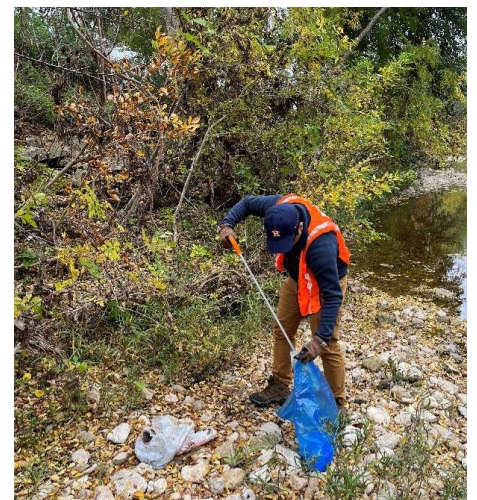
2019 Legislative Drive-In Attendees

Lastly, we are always looking for ASCE members to join in our efforts so if you or someone you know would be interested in being part of the Government Affairs Committee, do not hesitate to reach out the committee at [do not hesitate to reach out the GovernmentRelations@austinasce.org](mailto:GovernmentRelations@austinasce.org).

## EWRI UPDATE

BY KAYLA SWEDEEN, E.I.T.

On December 3rd, EWRI and YMF participated in a trash clean up at Shoal Creek just south of Pease Park. The group collected 15 bags of trash while enjoying the beautiful fall weather. This effort is part of a two year long commitment EWRI and YMF have made to adopt this stretch of Shoal Creek through Keep Austin Beautiful. EWRI and YMF will continue to plan four events each year for Shoal Creek which include trash/debris removal or native plantings restoration.





# ASCE TEXAS SECTION UPDATE

BY AUSTIN MESSERLI, P.E.

- April 12-15, 2023: [Student Symposium](#) will be held in Canyon Texas and hosted by West Texas A&M and Texas Tech.
- Submit your article for The Texas Civil Engineer (Texas Section Newsletter) [here](#).
- Save the date for CECON 2023 which is returning to San Marcos next year.
- Infrastructure Report Card will begin work in later 2023, email to volunteer.



## ASCE CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

BY JANE-ELLEN CARTER, E.I.T. & STEVE ZOBAL, P.E.

Planning is in full swing for our annual Continuing Education Conference which will be at the JJ Pickle Research Center. We are looking for ideas for topics and speakers, and we are looking for folks to help with the event!

- Do you have any topics you would like to hear about at this year's conference? If so, please send us your ideas!
- Are you interested in helping us with the Continuing Education Conference? We are looking for folks to help us with registration on the day (TBD) of the event, flyers/program printing, etc. If you plan on attending or would just simply like to volunteer, please let us know!

You can email us at:

[stevez@mwmgroup.com](mailto:stevez@mwmgroup.com) and/or  
[janeellen.carter@aguirre-fields.com](mailto:janeellen.carter@aguirre-fields.com)



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023**



BY HOPE NEWTON, E.I.T.

## UPCOMING YMF EVENTS

- Trail of Lights on Thursday, December 15th
- Joint Networking Happy Hour on Monday, February 20th

For event details see our calendar: <https://www.austinasce.org/calendar>



**ASCE YMF  
TRAIL OF LIGHTS  
HAPPY HOUR**

**Thursday, December 15th**  
**Zilker Trail of Lights: 6 - 9 pm**  
**Lou's Happy Hour: 9 - 10 pm**

Join us at Zilker Park to walk through the annual trail of lights at 6pm. Afterwards, we will have a happy hour at Lou's Barton Springs at 9pm. Lou's reimburses parking in the adjacent garage and Zilker has parking passes available for \$20 for the event. Join us for some outdoor fun and drinks before the holidays!

## SHOAL CREEK CLEANUP RECAP

Thank you to everyone who came to our joint Shoal Creek Cleanup with EWRI. Through Keep Austin Beautiful's Adopt-a-Creek program, we are committed to restoring our adopted portion of Shoal Creek from 12th Street to 15th Street. We had a great turn out and worked together to clean and protect our waterway!



[@yymfaustin](https://www.instagram.com/yymfaustin)



[ASCE YMF ATX](https://www.facebook.com/ASCE.YMF.ATX)



[austinasce.org/  
younger-members](https://www.austinasce.org/younger-members)

If you are interested in learning more about ASCE YMF Austin, please contact our director Kaylyn Hudson at [kaylynkhudson@gmail.com](mailto:kaylynkhudson@gmail.com).



# SEI UPDATE

BY SCOTT L. WALLACE, P.E., F.SEI

As we enter the holiday season and the new year, people tend to have a lot going on. In order to continue to serve the structural engineering community during this time, SEI is preparing some varied offerings for you including SET 2023, partnering with ASCE in March for an in-person meeting with a structural engineering theme, and partnering with the other SEI chapters in Texas to put together a program that includes multiple presentations from different parts of the state. More info on these and more can be found below or at our [website](#).

## Professional Meetings:

In November we had a structural tour of Q2 stadium, home of Austin FC, lead by Mark Waggoner who did much of the structural design and Scot Kreiger who helped bring Austin FC to town and develop the stadium.

Our next Professional Meeting will be held in January. Then in March we will partner with ASCE to bring a structural presentation to the in-person ASCE monthly meeting. Later in the year we will also be joining the other SEI chapters in the state to bring you a statewide SEI virtual meeting including presentation from various parts of the state. Stay tuned to the latest information on all of this through our [website](#).

## Structural Engineering Talks (SET):

Structural Engineering Talks are back! After postponement due to repercussions from COVID, we intend to hold SET 2023 next Spring. In the mean time, information on developments and links to past SET presentations can be found here: <https://www.austinasce.org/sei/set>.



### **Additional Opportunities & Resources:**

#### **1. National SEI website**

Take a look at the new more user friendly design: [Visit SEI Now](#)

#### **2. SEI Standards Series**

Join live, virtual sessions for exclusive interaction with expert ASCE/SEI Standard developers on state-of-the-market updates. Participants will learn about technical revisions and review a design example. Attendees are encouraged to join and participate in Live Q&A. REGISTER NOW at <https://cutt.ly/9hQDTEo>



#### **3. ASCE Collaborate**

This is a collaboration page normally reserved for ASCE members but now open to all. It contains several events that can be joined. Many events are free of charge. See: <https://collaborate.asce.org/events/events200>

## STAY CONNECTED:

The latest and greatest news on upcoming events with the SEI Austin Chapter can be found at our [website](#). We always welcome your thoughts on future technical presentations and other special events you'd like to see in 2023. If there is something you would like to do, then we would like to hear about it. Please drop us a line at [sei@austinasce.org](mailto:sei@austinasce.org) and join us for future events.



# ASCE AUSTIN LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

If you're looking for ways to get more involved with your local ASCE branch, you're in luck! We're actively recruiting for multiple open positions for ASCE Austin, EWRI, SEI, and more. If you are interested in any of our committees, please contact our and our Nominations Committee Chair

## 2022-2023 ASCE AUSTIN OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### **PRESIDENT**

Paul Hahn, P.E.  
*Aguirre & Fields*  
[president@austinasce.org](mailto:president@austinasce.org)

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*Pape-Dawson Engineers*  
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*Garver*  
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*HNTB*

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*Garza EMC*  
[utstudentoutreach@austinasce.org](mailto:utstudentoutreach@austinasce.org)

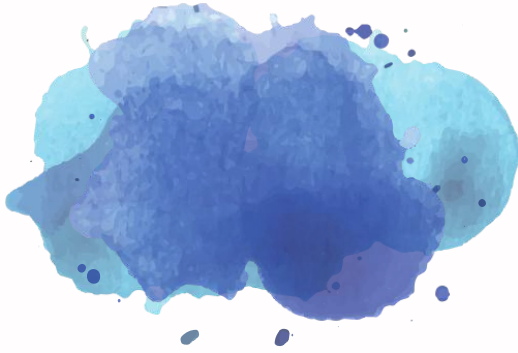
### **TEXAS STATE STUDENT CHAPTER CONTACT COMMITTEE**

OPEN

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPONSOR THE ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH FOR 2022-2023!

BY AMOS EMERSON, P.E.



We ask that all members consider supporting your local ASCE branch during these uncertain and difficult times. Almost all the functions of the organization are dependent upon these sponsorships and we cannot do all the great things that we do, without YOUR SUPPORT!

For more information about the benefits of sponsorship visit [www.austinasce.org/sponsors](http://www.austinasce.org/sponsors).

To sign up to sponsor, visit [here](#)

If you have any questions or for more information please email [sponsorship@austinasce.org](mailto:sponsorship@austinasce.org).

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### \$300 | ANNUAL SPONSORS

- Valid for 1 Year after date of purchase.
- Company logo is displayed on newsletters, mailers, and at ASCE branch meetings.
- Free postings on the ASCE job board.

### \$350 | MONTHLY BRANCH MEETING SPONSORS

- Company highlight in event promotion emails.
- Special recognition at branch meeting event.
- Opportunity to give a brief introduction of your Company during the event.

### \$300 | CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENT

- Company highlight in event promotion emails.
- Several additional levels of sponsorship available.

### \$850 | SPECIAL BUNDLE RATE

- Save \$100 when you pledge to support all three!
- Includes Annual Sponsorship
- Includes one credit for monthly branch meeting sponsorship.
- Includes sponsorship at Continuing Education event.

## 2021-2022 SPONSORS

Thank You To Our Branch Sponsors!



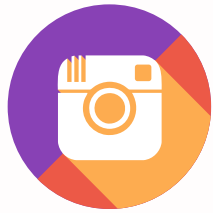
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