



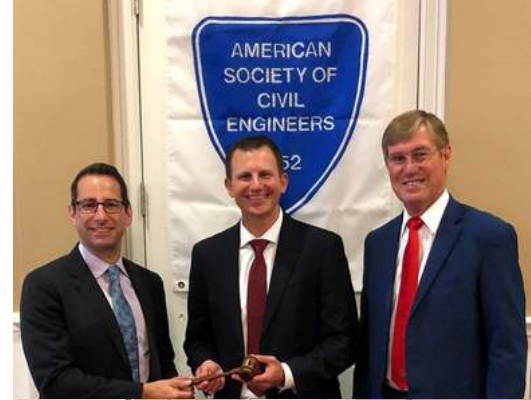
TEXAS SECTION  
Austin Branch

# ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

*APRIL 2023*

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY PAUL HAHN, P.E.



Happy spring, and happy holidays everyone! Please join us at our next luncheon on April 18, where we'll hear from Robert Adams and Parran Hutton, who will tell us about implementing an aerobic granular sludge process in wastewater treatment for the City of Marble Falls, a potentially a "first in Texas" technology.

Registration links and additional information can be found on [page 5](#) of this newsletter.

Our annual continuing education event is coming up in just a couple weeks, on Wednesday April 26 at the JJ Pickle Research Campus.

This year's title is "Keep Moving Forward," and we'll be focusing on new developments in the world of civil engineering. It's a great way to knock out most of your PDHs for the year, including ethics, and of course lots of opportunities for networking. Breakfast, lunch, and lab tours are included with the cost of [registration, which is open now!](#)

Don't forget to renew your membership! Membership provides access to free on-demand webinars, technical content, and lots of member deals and discounts. And if you renew this month, it'll be just in time to be nominated to serve on the Board or as a Committee Chair. We're looking for volunteers right now to fill out next years' Board of Directors. If you're interested in volunteering, or want to nominate a friend or coworker, email Sam Shorter: [pastpresident@austinasce.org](mailto:pastpresident@austinasce.org).

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.

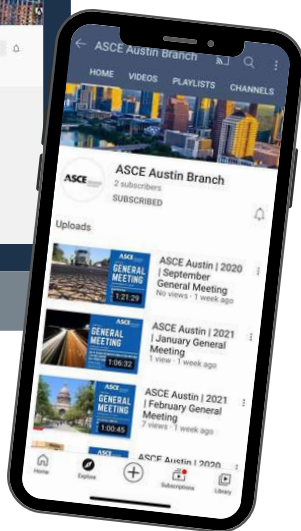
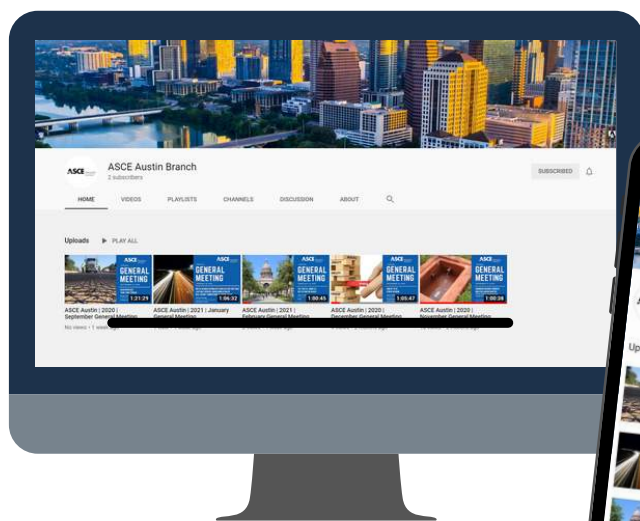
ASCE Austin Branch President

# UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/12-15/23 ASCE Region 6 Student Symposium
- 4/17/23 ASCE YMF Spring Seminar on Friday, April 7th
- 4/14/23 ASCE YMF Scholarship Application Due
- 4/18/23 ASCE Austin Branch April Meeting
- 4/26/23 ASCE Austin Branch [Continuing Education Conference](#)
- 4/28/23 ASCE YMF Golf Tournament
- 5/16/23 ASCE & EWRI Austin Branch Joint May Luncheon

## 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:





# APRIL BRANCH MEETING

BY KAT LAUER, P.E.

## REGISTRATION

REGISTER BY 4/14 AT 12PM

▶ DATE | 4/18/2023, 11:30am - 1:00pm

▶ LOCATION | Balcones Country Club  
Zoom Virtual Meeting

▶ LINK | [Click here for In Person](#)  
[Click here for Virtual](#)

## MEETING TOPIC

### ONE WATER MARBLE FALLS - IMPROVEMENTS TO MANAGE WASTEWATER

This presentation discusses how the City of Marble Falls and Plummer Associates are meeting the unique requirements of wastewater treatment expansion and disposal, including utilizing an aerobic granular sludge process. Potentially a “first in Texas” technology, the design challenges and opportunities presented for moving the project from preliminary design to detailed plans.

## MEET THE SPEAKERS



Robert Adams, D.E., P.E.

Robert Adams is a Principal Engineer in the Austin office of Plummer Associates, with BS, M Eng., & D Eng. degrees from Texas A&M University. He has been assisting clients with solutions to water supply, quality, and environmental problems for over 30 years. He develops sustainable solutions by applying both natural and conventional treatment approaches for wastewater and biosolids. He has led a broad range of projects from water resources planning and conservation efforts to water quality planning and watershed management. Over the last 15 to 20 years Robert has primarily focused on wastewater treatment plant improvements.



Perran Hutton, P.E.

Perran earned his bachelor's and his master's degree from the University of Birmingham (United Kingdom), with a focus on water resources and environmental engineering. Upon graduating he worked for Veolia Water in a variety of engineering roles, the latter focusing on wastewater treatment optimization as a process engineer in Edinburgh, Scotland. After a year with the Environment Agency he moved to the United States and started working for Plummer Associates in 2017. Working in the wastewater design team and obtaining his PE license. He has been part of several wastewater treatment master planning, preliminary engineering, and detailed design projects in Texas since.

## THANK YOU TO THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR!



# ASCE CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

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

## ASCE | CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

-APRIL 26, 2023-



📍 JJ PICKLE RESEARCH CAMPUS

APRIL 26 | 8 AM - 5 PM

- BREAKFAST & LUNCH INCLUDED
- EARN UP TO 7 PDH / 7 CEC HOURS
- STATE OF THE ART LAB TOURS

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- TRANSPORTATION PANEL  
(AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES)
- RISK MANAGEMENT FOR ENGR PROJECTS
- COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

REGISTRATION COST:

**\$200**  
PERSON

**\$125**  
GOV'T  
EMPLOYEES

**\$75**  
STUDENT

## 2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE DRIVE-IN



**Royce West, TX Sen, Addresses Attendees**

Royce West, the Vice-chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, stopped by the morning session and further informed participants of transportation bills moving through the Senate.

During the afternoon, participants headed over to the capital building to meet with their State Senators and Representatives and discuss ASCE priorities and positions on infrastructure-related bills.

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).

The Legislative Drive-in, which was led by the ASCE Texas Government Affairs Committee, took place April 3-4, in Austin, TX. The event was attended by 45 ASCE Texas Section members from around the state, including several from the Austin Branch.

The event was hosted at the Double Tree on 15th Street and was kicked off with an evening reception on April 3rd. On April 4th, participants attended a morning training session, in which attendees learned about general advocacy approaches and infrastructure-related bills currently proposed by the 88th Legislative Assembly.





# ASCE AUSTIN COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

BY MICHAEL CHAVEZ, P.E.

## CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD BANK

Thank you all for your continued support! Last month, we had a fantastic service event at the Central Texas Food Bank. ASCE Austin Branch members helped inspect, sort, clean, box, and prepare food donations for distribution to 21 counties in the Central Texas region. With our efforts, we were able to provide over 150 boxes or 1500 meals to the community!



We're also proud to announce that ASCE Austin Branch made a \$2000 donation to support the food bank and make a lasting impact to our Central Texas community. Thank you as always for your continued support!



Please email [communityoutreach@austinasce.org](mailto:communityoutreach@austinasce.org) if you have any questions.





# 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 [texassection@austinasce.org](mailto:texassection@austinasce.org) to volunteer.



## 2023 ASCE Texas Section Annual Award Nominations

*Nominate a coworker, friend or colleague you think deserves special recognition*

Nominations close May 1, 2023



2023 ASCE Texas Section Awards Nominations are due

[MAY 1, 2023](#)

For more information, click [here](#).

BY HOPE NEWTON, E.I.T.

## UPCOMING YMF EVENTS

- Scholarship Application Due on Friday, April 14th
- ASCE YMF Golf Tournament on Friday, April 28th

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

## GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIPS ARE OPEN!



## ASCE YMF 2023 SPRING SCHOLARSHIP



For more information click the images above!



@ymfaustin



ASCE YMF ATX



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

If you are interested in learning more about ASCE YMF Austin, please contact our president Katherine Smith at [ksmith@half.com](mailto:ksmith@half.com).

Keep up to date on our latest news by following us on any of our social media platforms!

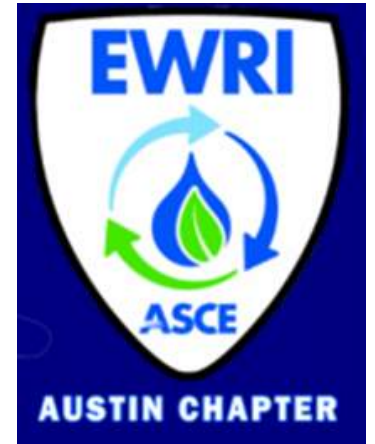


# EWRI UPDATE

BY KAYLA SWEDEEN, E.I.T.

## 2023 EWRI Scholarship – Apply by Friday April 14th!

EWRI is proud to offer seven (7) scholarships for students in the following amounts: For current high school seniors: (4) scholarships at \$500 and for current college students: (1) scholarship at \$2,000 and (2) scholarships at \$1,000. If you know a student who might be interested, please direct them to our website to read our eligibility requirements and apply via our online Google Form!: <https://www.austinasce.org/ewri-scholarship>. Applications must be submitted no later than Friday April 14th at 5pm. Have questions? Please direct inquiries to [ewri.scholarship@austinasce.org](mailto:ewri.scholarship@austinasce.org).



## 2023 Continuing Education Workshop – Friday June 16th!

Our annual Continuing Education Workshop is happening Friday June 16th at the J.J. Pickle Research Center. Our theme is “The Future of Water Security in the Heart of Texas”. Our government and research scientist speakers will be sharing on all things water conservation. This includes, but is not limited to: regional water supply planning, drought analysis, aquifer storage and recovery, smart water meter infrastructure, and green stormwater infrastructure in the Central Texas region.

*\*If you are in the public space and are interested in sharing your industry knowledge and expertise as it relates to our theme, we would be delighted to consider you. Please direct inquiries to [ewri.president@austinasce.org](mailto:ewri.president@austinasce.org)\**



## EWRI UT Partnership

EWRI is partnering with UT Civil Engineering students to participate as client representatives on behalf of AISD for green infrastructure projects conducted by UT students through professor Dr. Bob Gilbert’s UT Professionalism Class. Several EWRI members are participating in this effort through the Spring semester to mentor and lend technical expertise to undergraduate UT students. EWRI is happy to be part of these hands-on practical engineering projects put together by UT faculty. Hook em’!



## May Luncheon

Keep an eye out for registration information for the joint ASCE and EWRI Luncheon on May 16, 2023. Kevin Smith, P.E. will be presenting on “Edwards Aquifer Protection Program Roadway Applications and Appropriate BMPs”.





# SEI UPDATE

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

In our effort to advance and serve the Structural Engineering profession, SEI Austin is continuing our Professional Meetings every other month (Sept – May) and bringing back our Structural Engineering Talks (SET). For details on these and other upcoming events see below and visit our [website](#).

## Professional Meetings:

After providing two speakers to present on: Developing TxDOT's In-House Load Testing Capabilities at the ASCE mtg on March 31st, we will have the next Professional Meeting in May. For more information and to register see our [website](#).

## Structural Engineering Talks (SET 2023):

Structural Engineering Talks are back! Our premier event will take place in the Spring. Best described as TED Talks meets Alamo Drafthouse, this event includes four presentations that each depart from a normal in-the-weeds technical presentation but still relate to our profession while relaxing with dinner and drinks at an Alamo theater. The presentations are lively, philosophical, inspirational or thought-provoking and sometimes make us re-think our approach to structural engineering. SET2023 is an Austin original and should be a lot of fun.



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:

Stay connected to the SEI Austin Chapter via 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

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*Aguirre & Fields*  
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*HNTB*

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### **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS STUDENT CHAPTER CONTACT COMMITTEE**

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

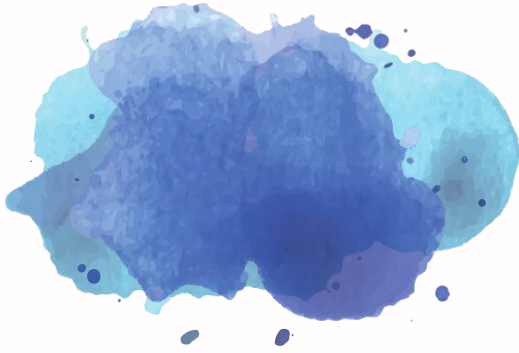
### **TEXAS STATE STUDENT CHAPTER CONTACT COMMITTEE**

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.

## 2022-2023 SPONSORS

Thank You To Our Branch Sponsors!

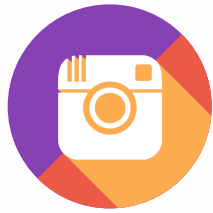




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