

CRITICAL PATH



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
GREATER AUSTIN CONTRACTORS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

ACEA Board 2024-25 Call for Nominations

Submit Nominations by April 11

Are you looking for a way to grow your career in 2024? Are you interested in developing your network and leadership skills? Join the ACEA Board of Directors and shine a light on your expertise and contribute to the association's growth. Submit your nomination (or a nominate a colleague you think is ready) by April 11 and power up your career potential.

DO I HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

ACEA wants to include individuals with diverse work, life, social, and educational backgrounds so that it can make well-rounded decisions that reflect its entire membership.

WHAT DOES A BOARD MEMBER DO?

Board members are responsible for strategically thinking, planning, and evaluating on behalf of the association. While staff and volunteers execute ACEA programs, the board is responsible for envisioning the program, setting their direction, and evaluating them for progress and success.

WHY SHOULD I SERVE?

Ask any past ACEA Board member. They will tell you about the tremendous value of board service. Not only does board service look good on a resume, you will enjoy significant professional and personal benefits. You will have



You will meet, work with and learn from industry leaders, gain professional recognition that elevates your stature within your own company and the industry, and add valuable work experience that opens doors to new career opportunities.

the opportunity to meet, work with and learn from industry leaders; the chance to share knowledge, expertise, and training with others; professional recognition that elevates your stature within your own company and within the industry at large; valuable work

experience that opens doors to new career opportunities; and relationships with new friends and lifelong mentors.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

Although board members invest time in preparing for and thoughtfully participating in board meetings, the time commitment is not overly demanding. The ACEA Board meets monthly for two-hour meetings (usually over lunch) and twice a year for a day-long planning session. Finally, board members are encouraged to attend ACEA's luncheons, serve as a board liaison to a committee or working group, and are encouraged to attend educational programs and activities.



WHATEVER IT TAKES. WHATEVER THE CHALLENGE.

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ACEA OFFICES

7200 N. Mopac, Ste. 130, Austin, TX 78731
Main: 512.893.7067
Silvia Pendleton, CAE
Executive Director

CONNECTIONS

ONLINE **EMAIL**
aceatx.com info@aceatx.com

MAIL
Silvia Pendleton, CAE
Austin Contractors & Engineers Association
7200 N. Mopac, Ste. 130
Austin, TX 78731

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PICTURED ABOVE The children open their gifts with Santa.

Six Months Flew By Fast

ACEA Serves Up a Full Calendar



Garrett Shepperd

Welcome to 2024! It's hard to believe that half of my term as President of ACEA has flown by. It's been a busy six months with a few challenges and plenty of successes to look back on. We had a great Summer Golf Tournament where my team won the coveted crystal trophy. Especially gratifying is that the trophy has been retired and my company gets to keep it. That was a special treat since my Dad was one of the team members.

Another treat was greeting everyone at the Fish Fry and getting to min-

gle with the members. I'm usually at the raffle ticket table handling the money. The Fish Fry is always a fun event and this one will go in my book as one to remember.

ACEA is always looking for ways to innovate and continue to provide opportunities to highlight our members. We created a special video tribute featuring a few of the bosses within our membership. We will keep looking for more ways to shine a spotlight on the hard-working members keeping the industry going.

We also look for ways to bring members together for some casual networking. The First Friday Coffee Chats have proven to be a popular

ACEA is always looking for ways to innovate and continue to provide opportunities to highlight our members. We created a special video tribute featuring a few of the bosses within our membership.



way for members to connect. Check out the schedule on page 18. The Membership Committee hosted a whiskey tasting event and a holiday happy hour featuring an Ugly Sweater contest. The competition was fierce and everyone got into the spirit of the holiday.

So now we're facing the next six months and the calendar is just as busy. I hope you will all take time to make at least one of the upcoming events. I'm looking forward to the Construction Expo in March and the Symposium in May. We'll also be holding an election for board positions. Serving on the board has been a great opportunity for professional growth and has expanded my network. If asked to throw your name in the ring, I hope you won't hesitate. It is one of the best things I've done for my career.

Let's make 2024 the best year yet for ACEA. Together we can achieve it. \ CP

Garrett Shepperd
ACEA Board President \ CP

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Call for 2024 ACEA Board Nominations

continued from cover

WHAT IS THE NOMINATION PROCESS?

ACEA members may nominate themselves for board service by following the same procedures they would use in order to nominate someone else, either online or by submitting a completed form to info@aceatx.com. The deadline for board nominations is April 11, 2023.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Members may self-nominate.
- Board members are responsible for strategically thinking, planning, and evaluating for the greater good of the association.

Nominate online by April 11, 2023.

- The board is comprised of 12 members (five contractors, five engineers, two associate members). We are looking to fill two contractor, two engineer, and two associate positions on the board.
- Terms are two (2) years and begin in July.
- The Board meets monthly for two-hour meetings (usually over lunch). A full-day planning session takes place in January for a mid-year review and in June to set the

direction for the year.

- Board members are often asked to serve as a board liaison to a committee or working group and encouraged to attend educational programs and events throughout the year.

ARE THERE OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

There are always any number of volunteer opportunities within ACEA. Send an email to info@aceatx.com for more information on serving on a committee or task force. \ CP



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CITY OF AUSTIN

Transportation Public Works: Public Hearing on ASMP Amendments

 Austin is in the process of updating three mobility plans guiding the construction of urban trails, sidewalks, crossings and bike lanes across the city.


The Urban Trails Plan, Bicycle Plan and Sidewalks, Crossings and Shared Streets Plan are all part of the larger Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP), and the ASMP is being amended to reflect the changes. The three plans will update prior documents that were

included as part of the ASMP: the Bicycle Plan (2014), Urban Trails Plan (2014) and Sidewalks Plan (2016).

You can review the ASMP amendments online. The final drafts of the three modal plans are also available on the ATX Walk, Bike Roll webpage.


Austin City Council held a public hearing on Thursday, November 30, to consider an ordinance to adopt the three modal plans while making amendments to the ASMP and the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.

Austin's Parkland Expansion

 A state-mandated change to Austin's regulations requiring new development to contribute to the city's parkland expansion efforts will go into effect Jan. 1.

AUSTIN WATER


2024 Water Forward Plan

 Austin Water is updating the 2024 Water Forward Plan. Water Forward is Austin's 100-year integrated water resource plan to develop and implement water management strategies to adapt to growth, drought, and climate change to ensure a sustainable, resilient, equitable, and affordable water future for the next 100 years.



CITY OF SAN MARCOS

Plats Online

 Due to recent amendments to the City of San Marcos' Development Code, staff created an online plat viewer for administratively approved plats. This can be accessed using the AdmiCnistratively Approved Plats Online Viewer! This viewer includes all plats approved since October 2023. This does not include recorded plats, which can be accessed via the applicable County Clerk. \ CP



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The Regulatory Committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month. If you would like to be notified of upcoming meetings, contact at info@aceatx.com.

Chili Cook-off Back for Second Year

Teams Battling for Top Prize

The ACEA Chili Cook-off was a success last year and the Membership Committee is once again hosting this fun event. Teams are signing up and polishing off their recipes. Awards will be presented for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place along with a People's Choice Award.

The event will once again be held at the MLA Geotechnical parking lot. Full information and rules for the event can be found online at aceatx.com. This family-friendly event will include games and fun for the whole family. Join us and help decide the winners.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

TEAMS PARTICIPATING

- 4Ward Land Surveying
- Advanced Drainage Systems
- Bleyl Engineering
- Jones-Heroy & Associates
- Manhard Consulting
- MLA Geotechnical
- Pape-Dawson Engineers
- TDI Engineering
- Texas Heavy Equipment Repair
- The Nitsche Group

COOK-OFF SCHEDULE

- 8:00 a.m. Cooking Team Check-in
- 1:00 p.m. Registration Opens
- Judging begins
- 3:00 p.m. Voting for People's Choice Ends
- 3:30 p.m. Awards Presentation \ CP

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2024 Construction Expo

Highlighting Career Opportunities for Students

The goal for the Construction Expo is to introduce high school students to aspects of construction they might not be familiar with. The dual purpose is to prepare these students for the workforce and offer a way for members to recruit new talent after graduation.

The Committee has partnered with the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department with transportation to be provided by the schools. Holding the event during the week allows the

Get creative, make it interesting and fun for the students with real-world tasks such as pouring concrete, framing, surveying equipment, drilling, and laying pipe.

school to treat the outing as a field trip and provide the necessary transportation.

EVENT NEEDS

Hands-on Demos: Get creative, make it interesting and fun for the students with real-world tasks such as pouring concrete, framing, surveying equipment, drilling, and laying pipe.

- **Equipment:** Allow students to operate or observe heavy-equipment tasks.
- **Job Information:** Information on

hiring, expected wages, and work hours. Get students ready for summer jobs or internships. ACEA is gathering student's contact information and will be made available to ACEA members after the event.

BE PART OF THIS EVENT

- Sponsors needed to cover expenses.
- In-kind Donations of materials or supplies (safety glasses, vests, hard hats).
- Set up a booth or demo.
- Send volunteers to help.

EVENT DETAILS

2024 Construction Expo
March 22, 2024

City of Austin Watershed Protection Department
9200 Sherman Road
Austin, TX 78742

SPONSORSHIP AND REGISTRATION

Sponsorship details and registration for booths, demos and volunteers is available at aceatx.com or info@aceatx.com. \ CP



PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Advanced Drainage Systems (ADS)
American Flow Control
City of Austin
Holt Cat
MLA Geotechnical
Pape-Dawson Engineers
RDO Equipment
Waukesha-Pearce (WPI)



High school students interested in a career in construction attended the ACEA's Construction Expo for a day of hands-on demos.

City of Austin Creates Technical Advisory Review Panel

ACEA Members Tapped to Participate

In March 2023, the Austin City Council passed a resolution to create a Technical Advisory Review Panel (TARP) of community stakeholders and city staff. This collaborative group working along with housing and development industry professionals to better align criteria manual rules with Council policies and, where appropriate, simplify the development process. The TARP meets monthly to provide feedback on proposed rule changes before they being the adoption process and considers way to improve existing rules.

A call for nominations from the community stakeholders went out last Fall. Nominees had to be technical experts in a discipline related to the City's criteria manuals. This included professionals such as civil engineers, architects, surveyors, arborists, and landscape architects that the anticipat-

ed time commitment of one monthly meeting. However, agenda topics will be grouped together so that if a member's expertise is not needed for certain meetings, they can choose whether to attend.

ACEA submitted the names of three volunteers, all active participants in the Regulatory Committee and familiar with the permitting process. We are pleased that all three have been approved to serve. ACEA is grateful for their willingness to serve and for making the time commitment that will be necessary.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON THE PANEL:

- **Walter Hoysa, P.E.,** LJA Engineering
- **Casey Giles, P.E.,** Doucet, a Kleinfelder Company
- **Travis Krause, P.E.,** Pape-Dawson Engineers \ CP

ACEA MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

As a member of ACEA, you have the opportunity to promote your products and services to your industry peers through ACEA's quarterly newsletter, *Critical Path* and the Annual Directory.

For more information, visit <https://www.aceatx.com/advertising.html> or scan the code.

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A Lasting Tradition Puts Smiles on Faces

Delivering Gifts to Mainspring Schools for 23 Years

Since 2001 ACEA has been delivering gifts to the children attending the Mainspring Schools. This has become a highly anticipated program with members vying for the privilege of getting on the list. Mainspring focuses on serving low-income families and single working parents – especially single mothers. From the beginning, the school has ensured that caregivers of young children are empowered with the tools and resources they need to flourish. ACEA is proud to play a small part.

Santa (a.k.a Frank Del Castillo, Ashton Woods) once again made an appearance and delighted the children and staff at the school. One classroom showered Santa with thank you notes and plenty of hugs. Parents often make arrangements to be at the school to witness the joy and excitement for themselves. Haegelin Wehmeyer Construction transported the gifts and their help is greatly appreciated.

The ACEA office starts filling up with gifts in November and is completely overrun by delivery time. One of the highlights is interacting with the members dropping off the gifts. The care taken with selecting the items from the wish lists is equaled by the careful wrapping of each gift. Now that the teachers are also included in the gift-giving members were equally creative with their presents.

Thanks to each member who took time to buy the gifts, tagged them, and wrapped them with such care and delivered them to the office. Your generosity is appreciated and made a difference in many lives. \ CP

1. Dustin Goss, Pape-Dawson Engineers, dropping off presents. 2. Paige LaPinto, HydroSource. 3. Teresa Hollins, Atwell. 4. Santa surrounded by some of the children at Mainspring Schools. 5. A happy child with a brand new toy from Santa. 6. This lucky boy got the dozer he was hoping for. 7. Santa hands out the gifts. 8. Big smiles when their name is called. 9. This little tyke isn't sure about the man in the red suit.





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10. Santa got some sweet thank you notes from the children. 11. Santa enjoys visiting with the infants at Mainspring Schools. 12. Santa delivered a cash donation from ACEA members to Colin Swanson, Mainspring Schools Executive Director. 13. Santa and helpers: Back row: Amanda Lloret Pineda, Family Services Director; Silvia Pendleton, ACEA Executive Director; Ken Partain, Central Texas Technology Solutions; Colin Swanson, Executive Director Mainspring Schools. Front row: Kathryn Sias, ACEA Executive Assistant; Frank Del Castillo, Ashton Woods (a.k.a. Santa); Jacob Keel, Haegelin Wehmeyer Construction.

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 ACEA MONTHLY LUNCHEONS
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Celebrating with Members at Holiday Happy Hour

Embracing the Ugly Sweater Reality

ACEA members gathered at The Flats in Round Rock on December 5 to strut their holiday finery. There were a few grinchers who couldn't get into the spirit, and given the warm temperatures, we can't really blame them. But, there were plenty of ugly sweaters and a few naughty sweaters too. Even Santa stopped by for some photo ops and raised a glass or two with the members.

As the sponsor, Ted Woolsey, StormTrap, served as the judge for the Ugly Sweater contest. His impartiality was never in question since he openly announced that he would accept bribes. Ultimately, good taste won out and the winners were announced:

Ugliest: Frank Stencer, ADS; **Uglier:** Bryce McCoy, Central Power Systems & Services; and **Ugly:** Jonathan Mohler, Contech Engineered Solutions

Stay tuned for updates on the next Networking Happy Hour Event. \ CP

1. Frank Stencer, ADS, took the dubious prize of Ugliest Sweater pictured with Santa (aka Johnathan Nitsche, and Ted Woolsey, StormTrap. 2. Shannon Brooks, RDO Equipment; Kathryn Sias, ACEA; and Briana Baker enjoyed the event. 3. Ted Woolsey, as the sponsor judged the sweater entries (totally impartially, of course).



ACEA Supports Blue Santa Community Program

ACEA has a long history of supporting the Operation Blue Santa program. The exact number of years has

been lost, but it is an honor and a pleasure to partner with this organization that does so much good in the community. Their mission is to provide toys and food to families in need during the holiday season.

ACEA supports the program by matching members' donations. It's become an annual tradition to invite representatives from the organization to bring an update. This year, Operation Blue Santa board member Tami

Baker shared a moving personal story of how her family was impacted by the Blue Santa program during her childhood. Operation Blue Santa President Margarine Beaman was also on hand to bring greetings. \ CP

Margarine Beaman, President Blue Santa, with Tami Baker, Blue Santa Board Member, accepting a check from Garrett Shepperd, ACEA Board President.



Scholarship Program Creates Talent Pipeline

ACEA Prepares for Another Year of Supporting Students

ACEA began awarding scholarships to area students in 2004. The program started out with small awards to students in a variety of disciplines. Recently, the focus has been on students pursuing degrees in construction or civil engineering. This aligns perfectly with member’s business focus.

PROGRAM DETAILS

- Three (3) or more total scholarships will be awarded each year, one of

which can be the Jim Brewer award.

- Students must be pursuing a civil engineering or construction-related career.
- Students may qualify for financial support for four years; General Scholarship awards will be \$2,000 the first year and another \$2,000 for each subsequent qualifying year.
- The Jim Brewer Memorial Scholarship will offer \$3,000 for all four years if all the criteria are met.
- Each student will receive a compli-

mentary ACEA membership.

- Each student receives a complimentary pass to the annual Symposium.
- Children of ACEA members may be given preference.

The online application is available now and allows for electronic submissions. Check the ACEA website for complete information and to access the online application. \ CP

STUDENT UPDATE

2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

STUDENT	HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Victor Alexiou	Stoney Point High School	Tarleton University/Texas A&M
Riley Cloyd	James Bowie High School	Texas A&M University
Brecken Lee	Brentwood Christian School	Texas A&M University
Joshua Miller	Marble Falls High School	Texas A&M University

2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

STUDENT	HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Sarah Chu	McNeil High School	UT Austin, 2nd Year – 3.2 GPA, Interned with Half Associates Summer 2023
Irina Raleigh	Westwood High School	UT Austin, 2nd Year – 4.0 GPA
Natalie Perez	Johnson High School	Texas A&M, Interned with Westwood

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

STUDENT	HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Brett Sultemeier	LBJ High School	Texas A&M University, 3rd Year – 3.3 GPA, Interned with Jacobs Engineering Summer 2023
Makayla Ritchie	Hendrickson High School	Texas A&M University, 3rd Year – 3.6 GPA, Interned with Kimley-Horn Summer 2023

2024 Central Texas Infrastructure Design + Construction Symposium

New Venue for this Annual Event



A new venue has been chosen for the 2024 Symposium. In anticipation of the upcoming demolition of the Austin Convention Center, a new “home” has been found at the AT&T Conference Center. The venue offers ample parking and flexible breakout room space along with a ballroom big enough for the larger group sessions such as the opening and keynote sessions.

The Symposium Planning Committee began meeting in August and already has the majority of the sessions confirmed. The Symposium will kick off with a plenary session in the morning with the first breakout starting at 9:00 a.m. Overall, there will be five tracks with 20 sessions and a keynote speaker.

Eight of the sessions will be recorded (including Ethics) and offered on-demand after the event. The recorded sessions offer an opportunity

REGISTRATION RATES

2024 SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION TYPE	EARLY (ENDS 4/12/24)	REGULAR (AFTER 4/12/24)
ACEA Member	\$275	\$325
Public Agency Employee	\$275	\$325
On-demand Only	\$250 (no late fee)	
Non-Member	\$500	\$500
Student	\$50	\$50
Exhibitor Table*	\$850	\$900

*Additional charge may apply. Moderators and panelists receive complimentary access to the symposium.

to extend the number of sessions to either attend or watch online thereby extending the number of credit hours awarded. Attendees will have the option of registering for in-person (to include the on-demand sessions) or only the on-demand access.

A conference app will be available to facilitate the networking and follow

up with speakers and handouts. The committee is focused on reducing the need for a printed program, but will have plenty of signage available to guide attendees.

Registration is open and information on sessions and speakers will be available in the coming weeks. \ CP

SCHEDULE

Registration: 7:00 a.m.

Plenary session: 8:00 a.m.

First breakout session: 9:00 a.m.

Lunch with keynote: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Networking Social: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

SPONSORS TO-DATE

REGISTRATION

Pape-Dawson Engineers

LJA Engineers

NOTEBOOK

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LANYARD/NAMETAG

MLA Geotechnical

EDUCATION

Lone Star Paving

KT Civil

KEYNOTE

Jones-Heroy & Associates

\ CP

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ROB HUTTON

Independent Consultant, Former DR Horton President,
former Lennar Regional VP



Rob Hutton has 40+ years of real estate expertise and has underwritten close to 1,200 land acquisition and development deals. He also participated in mergers and acquisitions including the 2018 Lennar, CalAtlantic Merger, valued at \$9.3 billion.

He is the International Best selling author of “Think. Map. Do. — How Ambitious Leaders Can Accelerate Their Climb Into Senior Management.”

A photograph of the AT&T Conference Center building, a modern multi-story structure with large windows and a courtyard area with trees and arches. The image is used as a background for the conference information text.

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2024 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

Contact ACEA at 512.893.7067 for details.

ACEA Membership Luncheon Recaps

What You Missed at This Networking Opportunity

Yes, the topics are relevant and yes, you can earn PDH credits by attending, and finally, yes, the food is delicious and not always chicken. However, the real reason you should attend the membership luncheons is for the networking. Catch up with colleagues, meet new members, strengthen connections, or make new ones. Here is a brief recap of what happened at these luncheons over the past few months.

OCTOBER

We heard from Ken Partain, Central Texas Technology Solutions (CTTS), about Cybersecurity for Contractors & Engineers. We laughed sheepishly at our attempts at creating passwords, and we learned a few tricks to keeping data safe. Dustin Goss, ACEA President-elect, was on hand to present the new member plaque to the CTTS team, and the door prize to Frank Stencer, ADS. Coincidentally, CTTS, also received their new member plaque at the October luncheon.

NOVEMBER

In November, we welcomed Patrick Hodgkiss, Compliance Resources, Inc., as the guest speaker. He provided an update on the 2023 TPDES CGP Renewal. His lively presentation walked the audience through the process and answered questions along the way. Sponsor Compliance Resources, Inc. provided two door prizes won by Scott Swiderski, BGE, Inc., and Troy Young, RDO Equipment.

Operation Blue Santa representatives Tami Baker and Margarine Beaman provided an overview of the program. Tami Baker shared a personal story of how the program touched her family while she was a child. ACEA presented them with a check for \$1,000 to sponsor the program. Additionally, \$490 donated by members was matched by ACEA.



OCTOBER

1. The Central Texas Technology team received their new member plaque from Dustin Goss, ACEA President-elect. L-R: Josh Wilmoth, Ken Partain, Dustin Goss, and Bernice Ramos. 2. Dustin Goss gave Frank Stencer of ADS a door prize. 3. Dustin Goss with guest speaker Ken Partain.

DECEMBER

The December luncheon wrapped up the ACEA's 40th Anniversary year. Many of the association's past board presidents were on hand and were acknowledged for their contributions over the past 40 years. A champagne toast was raised in honor of the 40 years of serving the members and representing the industry. The program featured a

NOVEMBER

4. Patrick Hodgkiss our November guest speaker received a thank you gift from Garrett Shepperd. 5. Tami Baker, Blue Santa Board Member, shared her experience with the program. 6. Scott Swiderski, BGE, Inc., won one of the door prizes provided by sponsor Compliance Resources, Inc.

panel of future thought leaders discussing the state of the industry and where they see it heading. They shared their views on the trends that are reshaping how business gets done and the potential disruptions that lie ahead. The panel moderator was Aneil Naik, The Drenner Group. Panelists were: Jacy Warwick, P.E., D.R. Horton; Mat-



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thew Rodriguez, P.E., MLA Geotechnical; Zach Steele, P.E., Manhard Consulting; and Jeremy Thomas, Forestar Real Estate Group. The door prize provided by sponsor Westwood, was presented to Victor Kiwanuka, MLA Geotechnical.

The ACEA Membership Luncheons are held on the second Thursday of the month from 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities for 2024 are available. Sponsors receive two tickets to the luncheon, opportunity to introduce their company, prominent logo display onsite, logo and links in all electronic promotions, and on our social media channels. Contact ACEA for more information: info@aceatx.com or 512.893.7067. \ CP

DECEMBER

7. Aimee Busby, Lhoist, visits with Kathryn Sias, ACEA Executive Assistant. 8. Past ACEA Presidents gathered to commemorate 40 Years of serving the industry. L-R: Sara Dunn Cantu, Darrell Seeds, Walter Hoysa, David Matocha, Casey Giles, Scott Dukette, Carroll Faulkner, Joe Bland, Freddie Dippel, Tim Weston, Justin Lange. 9. Members enjoyed the festive atmosphere at the December luncheon. 10. Westwood sponsored the luncheon. 11. ACEA mugs awaiting the Past Presidents. 12. The panelists were: Aneil Naik (moderator), Matthew Rodriguez, Jacy Warwick, Zach Steele, Jeremy Thomas. 13. Garrett Shepperd presented the sponsor's door prize to Victor Kiwanuka.

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CP \ ACEA EVENTS

FEB \ 17

MAR \ 22

CHILI COOKOFF

TIME: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Prizes Galore! Family Fun!

This family-friendly event will include games and fun for members and their families. Join us and help decide the winners.

Sponsorships Available.

MLA Parking Lot

2804 Longhorn Blvd.
Austin, TX

CONSTRUCTION EXPO

TIME: 9:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Hands-on demos!

The dual purpose event introduces high school students to construction with hands-on demos and offers a way for members to recruit new talent after graduation.

Sponsorships Available.

City of Austin Watershed Protection Department

9200 Sherman Road
Austin, TX



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ACEA COFFEE CHATS

Connect with ACEA Members on the first Friday of every month. Enjoy a cup of coffee and morning networking with civil engineering and construction professionals. Attendance is free, but please register so we know how many to expect and for your chance to win a door prize!

FEBRUARY 2

SOUTHWEST ENGINEERS

The Hive
10542 Menchaca Road
Austin, TX 78748
TIME: 7:30 – 9:00 A.M.

MARCH 1

CENTRAL TEXAS TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Red Horn Coffee House & Brewing Co.
13010 W. Parmer Ln.
Cedar Park, TX
TIME: 7:30 – 9:00 A.M.

APRIL 5

PAPE-DAWSON ENGINEERS

Location TBA
TIME: 7:30 – 9:00 A.M.



PROJECTS

I-35 CAPITAL EXPRESS CENTRAL TUNNEL, CESAR CHAVEZ TUNNEL, AND US183 PUMP STATION - AUSTIN

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has selected BGE Inc. as the Design Engineer for the tunneling and pump station aspects of the I-35 Capital Express Central Tunnel, the Cesar Chavez Tunnel, and the US183 Pump Station in Austin, TX.

These tunnels and pumping stations must be completed before the highway construction phase of the overall CapEx Central improvement process begins. The pump station includes a pump house with customized concrete volute pumps capable of handling over 100,000 GPM, while the tunnels have a diameter of 22 feet and run over six miles.

BLUEJACK CLUBHOUSE - HOUSTON

Quiddity was the civil engineer on the Bluejack Clubhouse in Houston that broke ground on August 15, 2023 and is estimated to be completed mid-June 2024. The 12,000-square-foot structure (about twice the area of a basketball court) is framed using a combination of conventional wood framing, shop-fabricated wood trusses, and some structural steel.

PFLUGERVILLE DEVELOPMENT

ACEA member Kimley-Horn given the green light for a development of an 81-acre tract along the SH 45 and SH 130 corridor in Pflugerville.

BUSINESS NEWS

LJA ENGINEERING, INC

LJA Engineering, Inc., has expanded its presence in Arizona with the addition of an 11-person team of land development and construction management professionals from Sandbox Development Consultants, Inc., based in Phoenix.

RECOGNITION/AWARDS

AUSTIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Congratulations to Rudy Garza, president and CEO of GarzaEMC, and Mark Ramseur, managing principal of Pape-Dawson Engineers. Rudy Garza is the 2024 board chair of the Austin Chamber of Commerce and Mark Ramseur is the 2025 board chair of the Austin Chamber of Commerce, serving as chair-elect in 2024. Their terms began on Jan. 1, 2024.

THE CHAPMAN FIRM ADDS A PARTNER

Congratulations to Tiffany Leal! She is now a partner at The Chapman Firm.

BEST PLACES TO WORK 2023

Two ACEA members are on the list of Best Places to Work 2023. Congratulations to Dunaway and Encotech Engineering Consultants!

SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCES 18TH ANNUAL DIVERSITY IN CONTRACTING AWARDS

Congratulations to ACEA members:

Women Certified Business of the Year:

KLP Construction Supply



Consultant of the Year:

MWM Design Group \ CP



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BECOME A MEMBER

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