

PUB NEWS

APWA KC Metro Chapter Newsletter



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President's Perspective

By Shawn Graff

Happy New Year! In 2020, we not only get to start a new year but a new decade. This is the time of year people tend to reset their priorities and establish resolutions. I hope one of your resolutions is get involved with the many wonderful people of the Kansas City Metro APWA Chapter!

It is an honor to serve as the 2020 Chapter President. I look forward to working with all of you this coming year, but before I get started with 2020, I want to thank Past President Dan Brown for his leadership over the past year. The chapter accomplished a number of new initiatives under Dan's leadership such as the PW Peers program, where we welcome new members to the chapter at lunch with an Executive Committee member. A new strategic plan was developed and will be adopted by the Executive Committee this month. And there were many successful events held throughout the year; a few highlights:



- The National Public Works Week lunch and trivia game were a huge success.
- A student chapter at UMKC was restarted, giving young professionals a new way to become involved.
- The Chapter saw our largest number of Bar-B-Que teams at the Membership Drive and BBQ Competition in June.
- The Mid American Equipment Expo continued to grow and provided a great way for the talented men and women in the operations field of Public Works to show off their skills and attend educational sessions.
- Finally yet importantly, the Chapter continued to see excitement and growth in the Public Works Institute. The graduating class of 2019 was the largest so far.

These accomplishments and events would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of our amazing committee chairs and members. I want to extend my appreciation to all of you that make this such a successful and active chapter.

So a little about me--I was born and raised in the rural southwest Kansas town of Ashland, where I graduated high school and met my wife Tracy. I worked for my uncle at his water well repair and drilling business through high school and for a few years after. The water repair business interested me because we were providing a critical service that so many relied on daily. Tracy and I were married in the summer of 1994 and moved to Salina, Kansas where I started my career in public service with the City of Salina Utilities Department. In 2000, we moved to Lee's Summit and I started working for the City of Lee's Summit Water Utilities Department, moving to the Public Works Department in 2001. I spent a number of years as an inspector for development projects. It was a great experience being a small part of a growing community. I am one of those people that say I remember when that shopping center was an empty field!

I served as the inspections supervisor for a few years before getting in to the operations field, and I have been the Assistant Director of Public Works Operations for the past ten years. I enjoy the operations side of Public Works; we have an impact on the lives of everyone in our community on a daily basis by providing safe roads, keeping the community clean, and managing stormwater. This time of year our focus shifts to snow control and tackling the monumental task of plowing and treating roads. I cannot express enough my gratitude to all of the snowplow drivers, support staff and managers that work around the clock to keep our streets safe.

I became a member of APWA when I started with Public Works, but I did not get involved until years later. I

President's Perspective — cont. from page 2

joined the Community Service Committee, and we completed several projects throughout the KC Metro area, serving dinners at the Ronald McDonald House and collecting donations for Harvesters and Toys for Tots. I served as the chair for the committee until I joined the Executive Committee.

APWA has been a great experience for me; I have met many hard working dedicated professionals throughout the Kansas City area and all over the country. I have been able to take advantage of numerous education and leadership opportunities over the years. I encourage all of you to get involved in some way either big or small. I think you will find it is a beneficial resource, both professionally and personally. If I can be any assistance in helping you get connected, please contact me at shawn.graff@cityofks.net or (816) 969-1871.

I would like to welcome Tawn Nugent from TREKK Design Group and Trey Whitaker from the City of Edgerton to the Executive Committee as 1st Year Directors. I look forward to working with them and the returning Executive Committee members. In this New Year, a few initiatives that I would like to focus on are:

- Implementing the new strategic plan – A new strategic plan for our chapter was modeled from APWA Nationals priorities.
 - **Value**
Define the value of public works and enhance its visibility/awareness
 - **Voice**
Be the voice of public works within the Kansas City Metropolitan area
 - **Education**
Ensure excellence in education, training and credentialing
 - **Membership**
Create a dynamic chapter membership model
- Encouraging Meaningful Membership – I believe that membership is more than just a number that we are trying to reach; I believe that involvement is just as important. I encourage members to get involved with the chapter. Do you enjoy planning events, completing community service projects, or attending educational sessions? There are opportunities available for you.
- Supporting Young Professionals Involvement – Young professionals are the future of our chapter. We continue to have a very active Young Professionals Committee that plans events throughout the year. We created a new student chapter last year at the University of Missouri Kansas City campus. To keep this momentum going, anyone new to his or her career is encouraged get involved.
- Host a Successful MidAmX – The 2020 Mid America Expo (MidAmX) is quickly approaching. Planning is well underway for the conference that will be held at the Overland Park Convention Center on May 20-22, 2020. This will be a great opportunity to attend educational sessions or give a little of your time to take part in the many volunteer opportunities.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the 2020 President of the APWA KC Metro Chapter. I look forward to the opportunity to work with all of you over the next year as we continue to make this one of the most active chapters in the nation.

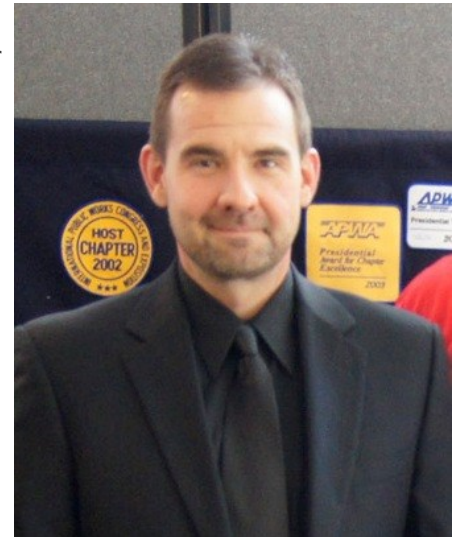
Delegate Details

By Bill Stogsdill

As we begin 2020, I want to take a moment and thank those who volunteer their time to APWA. The KC Metro Chapter and National APWA are stronger through your efforts. We would not be the premiere Public Works professional organization without you.

I would also like to give a big welcome to Becky Bonebrake from the City of Overland Park. Becky will be the new Alternate Delegate since Joe Johnson moved on to the National Board as Regional Director and I moved to Delegate. Becky will serve the Chapter well and has networking ties through her National Committee appointment and affiliation with the Kansas Chapter.

New President Shawn Graff is still working on filling out a few Committee Chair positions. If chairing a committee, or volunteering on one, is of any interest please let Shawn or myself know.



APWA's 2020 Combined Meeting

Kansas City will be hosting the annual Combined Meeting February 20-22 at the Westin Downtown. This meeting will combine the National Board, Council of Chapters, Technical Committees and National Staff. This meeting is held in the off years of the Leadership Training.

The Council of Chapters will meet as a whole and continue their work on Task Forces and Focus Groups.

APWA's Certification Program

APWA's certification programs provide a strong benefit to the public works industry and ultimately to our communities by promoting experience and excellence leading to an improved workforce and improved delivery of services.

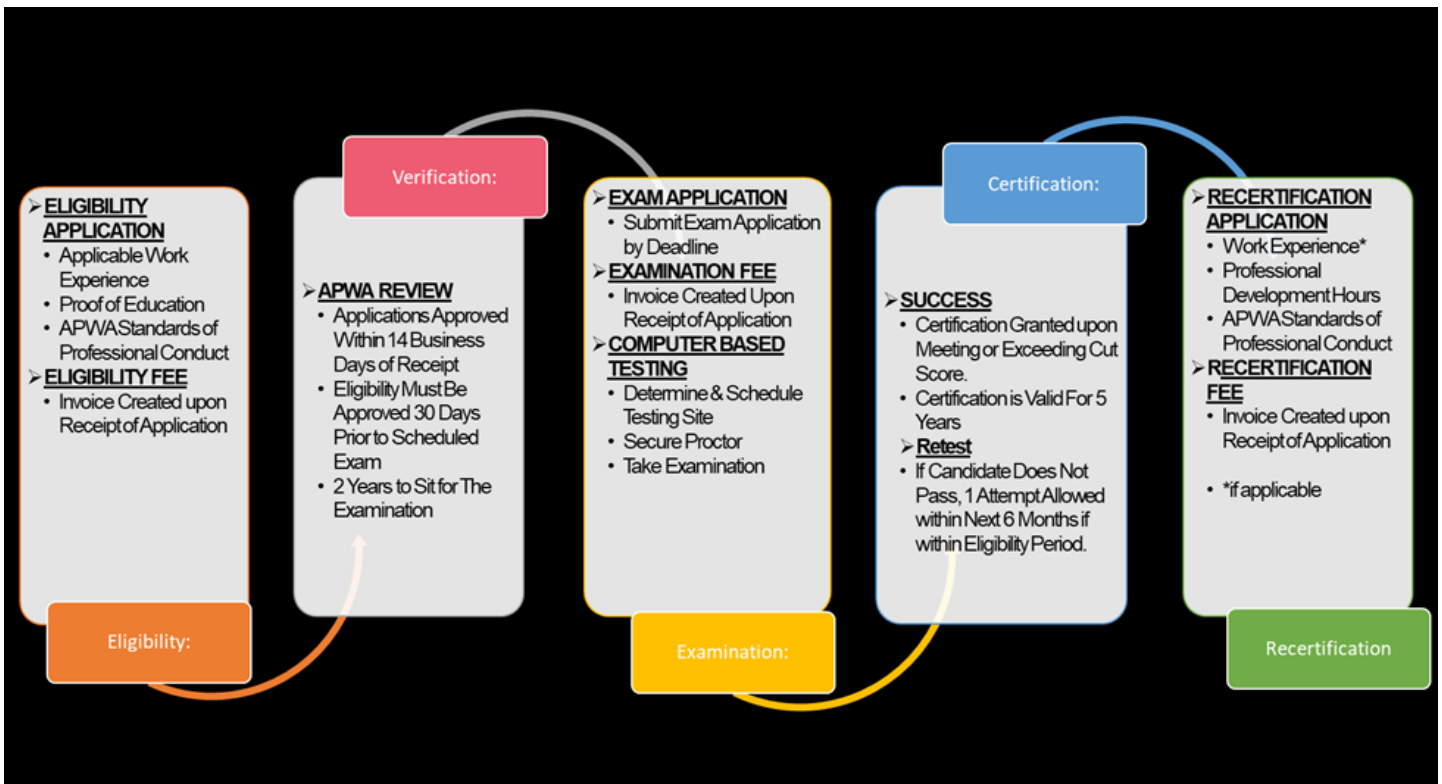
APWA has five Certification Programs currently:

- Certified Public Fleet Professional (CPFP)
- Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector (CPII)
- Certified Stormwater Manager (CSM)
- Certified Public Works Professional-Supervision (CPWP-S)
- Certified Public Works Professional-Management (CPWP-M)

The last two were the replacements for the Donald C Stone certification program. An Executive Certification Level will be added in the coming years.

Delegate Details

By Bill Stogsdill



The Certified Public Works Professional (CPWP) certifications are a great opportunity to show your staff's leadership to your communities while the CFPF, CPII and CSM provide an avenue for Public Works Professionals to showcase their unique skills and talents. If you would like more information on the CPII (Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector), the CFPF (Certified Public Fleet Professional), the CSM (Certified Stormwater Manager), the CPWP-M (Certified Public Works Professional-Management) or the CPWP-S (Certified Public Works Professional-Supervision) please contact staff at certification@apwa.net.

And if you have any other APWA questions please contact Becky Bonebrake or myself and if we are not able to answer the question we will find the right people that can.

Call for Award Nominations

Award applications are due
February 7, 2020

We all know people we work with who are deserving candidates.
Please submit their names or give them an application.

Please submit applications via e-mail to: awardsapwa@gmail.com

Applications for the 2020 Awards are available from the KC Metro Chapter Website by clicking on the following link: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/PageDetails/4174>.

Chapter Level Only Awards:

- Field Supervisor Excellence Award
- Operations Program Excellence Award
- Public Works Excellence Award
- Excellence in Public Works Publication Award
- Samuel A. Greeley Local Service Award

Chapter Level and National Awards:

https://www.apwa.net/MyApwa/Apwa_Public/About/Awards_Criteria_and_Forms.aspx

- Public Works Project of the Year
- Public Works Project of the Year for Small Cities/ Rural Communities
- Commendation for Exemplary Service to Public Works
- Exceptional Performance Awards (6 Categories)
- Management Innovation Award
- Technical Innovation Award
- Community Involvement Award
- Professional Manager of the year award (9 categories)

All award nominations are due February 7 except the Excellence in Snow and Ice and the Ken Cardwell Heart of America awards.

Winners of the KC Metro Chapter Awards will be recognized at an awards luncheon in June.

Recent Events

APWA KC Metro Chapter Holiday Party—December 4, 2019

Last month, the KC Metro Chapter's annual Holiday Party took place on December 4, 2019 at the DoubleTree – Overland Park. The turnout was incredible, completely filling the 200-seat venue space with members, officers, and PWI graduates. The Chapter was also honored to welcome APWA National President Bill Spearman as its Keynote Speaker. Bill followed up a wonderful meal with an inspiring speech that surely kept everyone on the edge of their seat. He also had the honor of swearing in the newly elected officers, alongside 2019 Chapter President Dan Brown and 2020 Chapter President Shawn Graff.



Shown above: newly elected APWA KC Metro Chapter officers

The program also included a time to recognize its newest Lifetime Members, Gary Strack and Keith Markway. To conclude the event, a raffle drawing was held to reward members for attending, and even more so for donating a toy to this year's charity, Della Lamb. 86 toy donations were dropped off to Della Lamb, smashing last year's total. We hope to increase that number to 100 next year!

As we have in the past, the chapter recognized the graduates of our Public Works Institute (PWI) by honoring them and a guest with complimentary registration for the party. In addition, each graduate received an APWA numbered certificate and an engraved desk plaque acknowledging their achievement. As previously reported in the PubNews, 60 individuals completed their 90 hours of PWI training in 2019. Thirty-six of these graduates along with 31 guests attended the party and were recognized in person while those who couldn't attend received their awards by personal or parcel delivery. For their support of their employee and the chapter's PWI, each of the graduates' sponsoring employer also received a gift of an APWA publication regarding supervision, management, leadership or public works operations.



APWA UMKC Student Chapter

More photos taken of the graduates, and of the event as a whole can be viewed on the chapter website at: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/PageDetails/21231>



Shown above: 2019 PWI graduates and other past graduates attending the holiday party along with APWA President Bill Spearman, Region VI Director Joe Johnson, Chapter President Dan Brown and PWI Director Larry Frevert.

Upcoming Events

UMKC Student Chapter Resume Writing and Interview Prep Workshop

February 11, 2020
5:30-7:30 PM
Flarsheim Hall, UMKC
5110 Rockhill Rd,
Kansas City, MO 64110

Students will sit down with professionals to get valuable feedback on their resumes prior to their upcoming career fair. Additionally they will get a chance to work on answering interview questions with professionals in a low pressure environment.

For more information and to register, click here: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/EventDetails/21275>

February Chapter Luncheon

February 26, 2020

Lee's Summit City Hall
2200 SE green St.
Lee's summit, MO 64063

Mark Stinson will be presenting about the new fleet management certificate and the Mechanics Rodeo.

For more information and to register, click here: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/EventDetails/21331>

APWA Mid Am Expo: Save the Date

May 20-22, 2020

Overland Park Convention Center
Overland Park, KS



Chapter Leadership

APWA 2020 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit & Budget - Alysen Abel
 Awards - Reid Catt & Becky Bonebrake
 By-Laws - Jason Meyers
 Chapter Meetings - Thomas Renfro
 Communications and Publicity - Allison Bruner
 Community Service - Jack Renfro
 Diversity - Zach Hardy
 Education & Training - Josh Hartman & Zach Matteo
 Emergency Management & Homeland Security (PET) - Rob Cole
 Engineering & Technology - Michael Haake
 Facilities & Grounds - Kristian Krc
 Fleet Services - Mark Stinson & Brian Dowling
 Golf Tournament - Jonathan Tronson
 Governmental Affairs - Trey Whitaker
 Historical - Ernie Longoria
 Holiday Party - Brandon Kuehl
 K-12 Student Outreach - David Smalling
 Leadership & Management - Ted Semadeni
 Membership - Scott Cogan
 Membership BBQ & Steak Fry - Brian Ladd
 MidAmX - Patty Hilderbrand
 MO-KAN Street Superintendents - Bill Billings
 Myron D. Calkins Scholarship - Phil Herrman
 Myron Calkins Symposium - Jason Meyers
 National Public Works Week - Heather Bray
 Snow & Equipment Training Expo - Paul Dunn
 Standards & Specifications - Dena Mezger & Michael Anderson
 Student Chapter - Aaron Castro & Lewis Muriithi
 Sustainable Infrastructure - JC Alonzo
 Transportation - Linda Rottinghaus
 Utility & Public Right-of-Way - Jeffrey Mains & Brent Berry
 Water Resources Management - Andrew Smith
 Webmaster - Tiffany Cartwright
 Young Professionals - Leslie Donnelly

Appointments, Liaisons, Coordinators, and Task Forces

ACEC-APWA Liaison - Howard Lubliner
 Asset Management Task Force - Steve Roth & Chris Harker
 Calendar/Events Coordinator - Dan Brown
 MCIB/KCMMB - Todd LaTorella
 Public Works Institute - Larry Frevert
 Solid Waste Management - Lisa McDaniel

KC APWA 2020 OFFICERS

President - Shawn Graff
 Vice President - Kyle Dieckmann
 Secretary - Alysen Abel
 Treasurer - Ben Will
 Past President - Dan Brown
 Director (2nd Year) - Heidi Thummel
 Director (2nd Year) - Nick Arena
 Director (1st Year) - Tawn Nugent
 Director (1st Year) - Trey Whitaker
 Director-At-Large - Bill Billings
 Delegate - Bill Stogsdill
 Alternate Delegate - Becky Bonebrake



For contact information, visit: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net>

New Members

Travis Addison, University of Missouri Kansas City

Joel Almloff, University of Missouri Kansas City

Trevor Asher, University of Missouri Kansas City

Chris Bretall, HNTB

William Briscoe, City of Grandview

Ryan Chrisler, Central Power Systems and Services

Allen Holloway, CMGT

Rezwan Jahangir, CMGT

Winston Knowlton, Kaw Valley Engineering

Rita Montalvo, HNTB

Blake Morris, Burns & McDonnell

James Schwaller, University of Missouri Kansas City

David Schuler, University of Missouri Kansas City

Dale Shipp, City of Richmond

Matthew Sutterby, Hanson Professional Services

Shelbi Swacker, McAfee Henderson Solutions

Matthew Urton, University of Missouri Kansas City

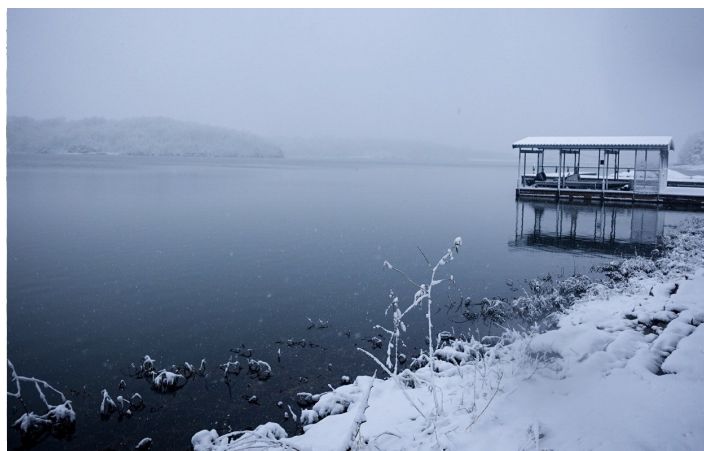
Steve Wescott, City of Gladstone

Tonya Willim, City of Richmond

The APWA Pub News, a free publication of the Kansas City Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA), is published in six issues throughout the year. To receive a free subscription, send an e-mail to abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com.

Publisher: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
 Editor: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
 Staff: Allison Bruner

The Pub News staff welcomes announcements, news articles, photos and suggestions. A new issue will be published in March. The deadline for the next issue will be Friday, March 13, 2020. Deadlines will be strictly enforced. Electronic formats are preferred, but not required. Send your stories to Allison Bruner via email at abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com.



POLICY FOR THE USE OF THE APWA PUB NEWS, WEBSITE AND ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST

It shall be the policy of the KC Metro Chapter that the use of the "APWA Pub News, Website and Electronic Mailing List" by outside agencies shall abide by the following:

- Outside agencies, educational institutions, and not-for-profit organizations may utilize the Chapter's website for dissemination of approved items that are considered beneficial to our membership.
- Approval of these items may be granted by the Chapter President, the Newsletter Editor and the Website Committee. When requested, announcements from other organizations may be posted on the Chapter's website under "News" if the Newsletter/Communications Committee is provided electronic announcements in a format that can be posted without modification or editing.
- The Newsletter/Communications Committee may use the chapter's electronic mailing list for announcements to KC Metro Chapter members when the topic is related to an APWA activity or event. However, an announcement will not be sent before the Chapter event has been posted on the KC Metro Chapter website.

This policy was approved by the Executive Committee on November 19, 2008.