

# PUB NEWS

## APWA KC Metro Chapter Newsletter



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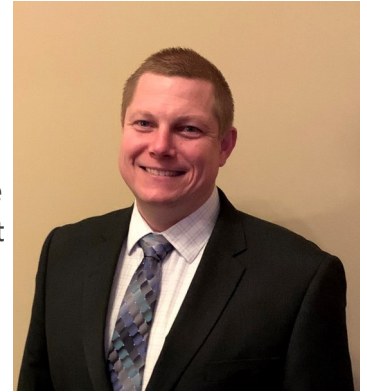
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## President's Perspective

By Kyle Dieckmann

Believe it or not, we have made it to March 2021, the beginning of Daylight Savings Time and spring. Although February is the shortest month, it seemed to drag on with brutally cold weather. The KC Metro area recorded the first subzero high temperature, since December 22, 1989. This is just one example of the weather related records that were broken. However, many of you don't need to be reminded of the brutal weather. You were in snow operations for these events that just seemed to stack up; and I would like to extend my thanks for everyone's efforts. Now that it is warming up, I am looking forward to getting outside and taking my daughters' fishing. Springtime also brings construction and orange barrels, I guess it is really "channelizing devices" to be precise. Many projects have started as we begin a productive season of improving and maintaining infrastructure.



Although we are still looking forward to networking in person, I am excited to share an update on how the Chapter continues to be active.

- March Virtual Event #1 - On March 2, we held a virtual meeting about the recently constructed 75th Street & I-35 Interchange. Steve Rockers and Nathan Jeffries, from KDOT, as well as Garrett Hummel and Nicholas Thomas, from Wilson & Company, presented on this necessary project to add a 4th lane to I-35 through the interchange. They described challenges encountered, adapting during construction, and the success of the project. Sixty attendees were registered for the meeting.
- March Virtual Event #2 - On March 25, we are joining with the Kansas City Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for a virtual meeting. ASCE National released the 2021 Report Card for America's Infrastructure. To further the conversation, Andy Alexander, PE, Senior Manager Transmission and Delivery Strategy at Evergy and Doug Whitacre, PE, Public Works Director, City of Shawnee, Kan., will discuss the infrastructure within their stewardship. They will provide insight into the state of infrastructure today, as well as future needs. See the KC Metro APWA Chapter website for more information.
- March Virtual Event #3 - The Chapter's Young Professional Committee is hosting a Virtual Pictionary event, on March 31. Plan to join us for a light-hearted event for anyone that is interested.
- Chapter Leaders Training - In late January, several individuals from our Chapter attended APWA National's virtual Chapter Leader Training, themed "Stronger Together." We learned tips for recruiting, retaining, motivating, and engaging members.
- Future Events - As our committees strive to put together worthwhile events, the Executive Committee is working closely with the committees on virtual and in person options. Our discussions have included the Public Works Institute and many of our regular events. Stay tuned for email blasts as well as updates on the Chapter website.

Many others in the Chapter are busy with planning future events, communications, awards submissions, and the chapter scholarship. By the way, what do you think of our new chapter website, template courtesy of APWA National?

Until the next newsletter, I hope to see you at the Young Professional Event where we can all show off our drawing skills.

## Delegate Details

By Becky Bonebrake

Spring is just around the corner and boy am I enjoying the change of weather, scenery and sounds of birds! With Spring brings our opportunity as a chapter to recognize outstanding projects and staff in our communities! Please take some time to look at the chapter level award winners later on in this newsletter! Congratulations to you all, very well deserved!

**PWX @ Home** continues! March focuses on solid waste operations, April will cover Facilities and Grounds and May will be focused on Sustainability. Check out the website at [https://www.apwa.net/MyApwa/Apwa\\_Public/PWX\\_at\\_Home/PWX\\_at\\_Home.aspx](https://www.apwa.net/MyApwa/Apwa_Public/PWX_at_Home/PWX_at_Home.aspx) for more information on the programs provided.



The **National Chapter Leaders Training** was provided virtually this year in January. Many sessions were recorded and are available on the website. If you are interested in what officers, committee chairs and delegates do check out the training and learn how to get more involved!

[Click here for more information](#)

The state of the association was presented a couple of weeks ago, titled "**The Road Ahead Public Works and Instructure**", the video is available on the APWA YouTube Channel (apwatv), here is the link! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NPIXUS225U> If you don't subscribe to the YouTube channel, consider checking it out. Nationals puts out some interesting videos, and you might see some familiar faces!

If you are interested in getting involved with the **National Technical Committees**, nominations are due **March 22**. You can self nominate, I did! Here is the link, <https://www.apwa.net/nominations>.

If you have questions about **Accreditation** through APWA, quarterly Open Forums are being held for one hour each quarter at 2 p.m. CT on March 23, June 22, September 21, and December 14. You can contact [accreditation@apwa.net](mailto:accreditation@apwa.net) for more information.

Other opportunities to look forward to include:

- April 6,7,13,14 - Facilities and Ground Management Certificate Workshop
- April 20-22- 2021 North American Snow Conference (VIRTUAL)
- April 29 - Click Listen and Learn: NOAA's National Water Model: Towards Continental Scale Water Prediction
- May 17-20 - Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP) Training
- August 29- September 1 - 2021 PWX in St. Louis, MO (Currently planning for in-person with some virtual opportunities. Evaluating in-person as it gets closer)



## Public Works & Land Surveying

By Terry Uhl

I first encountered surveyors on the farm - staking terraces, roads, buildings, fences, culverts, etc. Their work seemed to set so many things in motion.

For two summers as an undergraduate, I was fortunate to work on survey crews in IA, SD, NE & MN. It was hard work (but easier than the farm + better pay!). We were surveying for new subdivisions and public works improvements projects. I quickly saw the importance of quality surveys.

Land Surveying licensing is about the 'horizontal' (boundaries, easements/encumbrances, monuments, statutes, minimum standards). The 'vertical' (contours, topography, physical features) is the realm of Engineering Surveys. Both require precision, accuracy and professional judgment.

Land Surveying is the only license administered by the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions that does NOT require a 4 year degree, but knowledge of specific State statutes is tested.

Anderson Surveying in Kansas City has a quote on their letterhead from a 1705 Virginia Statute:



***'The quiet of our estates, in a great measure, depends upon the faithfulness, understanding, and care of our surveyors'.***

In public works, it is imperative to know the limits of available land, and where additional right-of-way or easements (temporary and/or permanent) may be required. Researching the land, as well as geology/soils, utilities, drainage, traffic, etc. is critical to the success of any public works improvement project. Assembling the 'pieces' from land records can quickly resemble a complex jigsaw puzzle.

Surveyors in the time of Mason & Dixon had it rough - away from home and family for years, carrying a line of latitude across hundreds of miles, cutting through forests, traversing hills & valleys, fighting the elements, holding off the hostiles. Their equipment was primitive by today's standards...no theodolites, total stations, EDM's or data collectors...no robotic GPS.

Mason & Dixon were focused on the 'horizontal'...'drawing a line'. They worked through many challenges.

Enjoy this piece, check out the Mark Knopfler tune, make plans to find one of the monuments on the Mason-Dixon Line, and treat yourself afterward to lunch at a local 'crab shack'.

Terry S. Uhl  
Uhl Engineering, Inc.  
Kansas Land Surveyor

# National Surveyors Week

STATE OF KANSAS



# PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, surveyors have long played a vital role in the growth and development of our nation. These dedicated professionals greatly aided early expansion, when the promise of land ownership encouraged pioneers to travel great lengths to settle and stake their claims; and

WHEREAS, today, surveyors continue to make invaluable contributions to the infrastructure and economy of the State of Kansas. Surveyors have many responsibilities, such as gathering data to establish land ownership and advising on infrastructure and geographic information systems development, and

WHEREAS, these industrious professionals maintain the expertise essential to meet emerging needs and technological advancements; and

WHEREAS, every March, a weeklong awareness campaign is conducted to highlight the contributions of surveyors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim March 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as

## National Surveyors Week

in Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka  
under the Great Seal of  
the State this 21<sup>st</sup> day of  
March, A.D. 2021

BY THE GOVERNOR:

*Laura Kelly*  
*Scott Schwall*  
Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State





# Our Visit to the Mason-Dixon Line

By Terry Uhl

There are few land surveys in United States history that are better known than the Mason-Dixon Line, dividing Maryland from Delaware on the east and Pennsylvania on the north.

In June 2019, we visited our son doing an internship in Hershey, PA. I had made prior arrangements with Eric Gladhill, Professional Land Surveyor in Gettysburg, PA to help me locate ANY of the stone monuments along that line.

We looked (with permission, but without success) for #84 (the number represents the miles west of the 'POB'). We were able to find #85, in a pasture (see photos).

We made a second trip to Gettysburg to tour the battlefields.

*Terry S. Uhl*

KS Professional Land Surveyor  
PE/LS Member KSBTP (1993-2000)

Monument #85 85  
Miles West of POB

Point of Beginning  
(POB)



The Mason-Dixon Line established borders between multiple states



The Pennsylvania side—"P"

- The survey was commissioned to settle a dispute between two powerful families: Calvert (MD) and Penn (PA)
- The survey was completed in the late 18th century.
- Generally, stone monuments were placed every mile along that line of latitude. Most are on private property.
- It is commonly believed that the Mason-Dixon Line divided the Union & Confederacy during the American Civil War. While largely true, Maryland remained a Union state, thereby not allowing Washington DC to be surrounded by Confederacy.



Marker Number 85

- In the western states, we use the 'Rectangular' survey system. Flying over western states, you can see the patterns.
- In the East, the 'Colonial' system is used, relying more on natural features. It was interesting talking to Mr. Gladhill about his 'Colonial' surveys in PA & MD.
- Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) recorded 'Sailing to Philadelphia' on a solo album with the same title. James Taylor contributed.
- The song is from the perspective of Charles Mason and his assistant, Jeremiah Dixon, on their way to America. Both were trained in surveying & astronomy.



The Maryland side—"M"

- Land surveying is a profession that combines mathematics, history, legal/law, research, writing, technology, continuing education, and nature.
- In Kansas, Land Surveyors are licensed thru the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions ([www.ksbtp.ks.gov](http://www.ksbtp.ks.gov)).
- The Kansas Society of Land Surveyors seeks to educate and advocate for the Land Surveying profession (<https://ksls.com>).

## 2021 Award Recipient Announcements

Congratulations to this year’s Chapter Level Winners! All Chapter Level winners have been submitted for consideration for national level awards. Chapter level winners and any national winners will be recognized at the May Public Works Week event.

### Public Works Leader of the Year

Bill Ebel — City of Overland Park, KS



### Young Leader of the Year

Allison Bruner -TREKK Design Group

### Public Works Project of the Year—Transportation Projects \$5 million to \$25 million

Project Name: Mahaffie Street Extension  
 Managing Agency: City of Olathe  
 Primary Consultant: HNTB  
 Primary Contractor: Pyramid Contractors, Inc.

### Public Works Project of the Year—Transportation Projects \$25 million to \$75 million

Project Name: Turner Diagonal Interchange  
 Managing Agencies: Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, KDOT and KTA  
 Primary Consultant: HNTB  
 Primary Contractor: Clarkson and TranSystems

### Public Works Project of the Year—Structures \$5 million to \$25 million

Project Name: Kansas City Kansas Fire Department Station No. 12  
 Managing Agency: Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas  
 Primary Consultant: Archimages, Inc.  
 Primary Contractor: Haren Companies

### Public Works Project of the Year—Structures \$25 million to \$75 million

Project Name: Wyandotte County Juvenile Justice Center  
 Managing Agency: Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas  
 Primary Consultant: TreanorHL  
 Primary Contractor: Newkirk Novak Construction Partners

### Public Works Project of the Year—Environmental \$5 million to \$25 million

Project Name: CID Green Infrastructure  
 Managing Agency: KCMO  
 Primary Consultant: HNTB Corporation  
 Primary Contractor: Kissick Construction Company

### Public Works Project of the Year—Disaster and Emergency Repair Construction

Stormwater Emergency Repair Projects  
 Managing Agency: City of Independence  
 Primary Consultant: Olsson  
 Primary Contractor: Wiedenmann Inc. (WBE)

### Exceptional Performance Award - Diversity

KC Art on the Block - A Black Lives Matter Project

## Call for Scholarship Applications

Scholarship applications are due

**April 12, 2021**

*Please forward this application to any qualified students.*

Applications for the APWA MDC Scholarship are due Monday, April 12, 2020. The scholarship award is up to \$2,500 per student, per year. Applicants interested in this scholarship must meet the following criteria:

1. Enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate education or trade school program that relates to public works at a qualified educational institution; and
2. Enrolled in a minimum of three (3) credit hours per semester or working towards completion of an accredited program for the duration of the scholarship; or
3. Applying to complete a certification program through APWA (or other agencies upon approval), including but not limited to the following: Certified Stormwater Manager (CSM), Certified Public Fleet Professional (CPFP), and Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector (CPII). More information can be found online at <http://www.apwa.net/certification/>.



If you have any questions please contact Erik Troy, scholarship committee chair, at [kcmetro-apwascholarship@gmail.com](mailto:kcmetro-apwascholarship@gmail.com)



## Help! Items Needed for Chapter History Book

By Connie Hartline

**Do you have pictures or a memory to share about any of these events between 2002 – 2020?**

- The "Great Congress Switch" from New Orleans to Kansas City in 2006
- Any Snow Rodeo
- Kansas City Metro Chapter Golf Tournaments
- Public Works Institutes
- National Public Works Weeks Celebrations
- Mid-America Conferences



If you can help contribute to the forthcoming chapter history book, please contact Connie Hartline at [chartline47@gmail.com](mailto:chartline47@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

### Public Works Institute Update

The Chapter Executive Committee working in conjunction with the Public Works Institute Director Larry Frevert has decided not to hold a live Public Works Institute training session this spring. While progress is being made towards controlling the Covid pandemic, there are still social distancing protocols that must be followed for everyone's safety and these make holding a live PWI inadvisable for spring 2021. Those who registered for the Spring 2020 PWI and have not yet requested their registration fee be reimbursed are still registered for the next live PWI and will be notified directly when that event is scheduled. For those who registered and now request reimbursement of their fee, please contact Larry at [lwfrevert@gmail.com](mailto:lwfrevert@gmail.com).

In the meantime the Chapter Executive Committee and Larry are exploring opportunities to provide some level of PWI related training virtually for chapter members. Watch future issues of the PubNews, the Chapter's website and for e-mails from Larry regarding such possible offerings. We thank you for your understanding and questions can be directed to Larry at the e-mail address shown in the previous paragraph.

## Upcoming Events

### APWA/ASCE Joint Event: 2021 ASCE National Report Card Discussion

**March 25, 2021 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

The American Society of Civil Engineers (National) released the 2021 Report Card for America's Infrastructure on March 3, 2021 in Washington, D.C. The national Report Card is released every 4 years to provide a status on the condition of our infrastructure.

In order to further the conversation, we have invited two engineers intimately involved in infrastructure in the area to come and discuss the infrastructure within their stewardship. They will provide insight into the state of infrastructure today, as well as future needs and considerations. We will have time for questions after their presentations.



#### **Speakers:**

**Andy Alexander, PE** – Senior Manager Transmission and Delivery Strategy at Evergy. Andy has worked in the power industry for 19 years for City of Columbia, Aquila, Kansas City Power and Light, and now Evergy. He brings a keen sense of the opportunities and challenges in the electricity sector.

**Doug Whitacre, PE** – Public Works Director, City of Shawnee, KS. Doug is currently the Public Works Director for the City of Shawnee, and his department addresses maintenance of existing infrastructure and oversees capital improvements for rehabilitation of existing or new infrastructure. He worked in the telecommunications sector for 21 years managing and directing efforts for capital projects and fleet management, before changing careers to become Public Works director in McPherson and then Topeka before arriving in Shawnee. He brings a broad perspective of maintaining and improving infrastructure to serve the residents and visitors of a city.

Click here for more information and to register: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/EventDetails?id=25513>

## Upcoming Events

### YP Virtual Pictionary

**March 31, 2021 5:00 - 7:00 PM**

The APWA KC Metro Young Professionals Committee is kicking off 2021 with a virtual Pictionary event!

Join us via Zoom as we catch up with fellow APWA members and play some Pictionary.

This event is free of charge and Raffle prizes will be available for those in attendance!

Further details regarding Zoom will be communicated closer to the event date.

Click here for more information and to register: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/PageViews/EventPageDetails?id=25498>





## Upcoming Events



# CELEBRATION EVENT



**MAY 20**  
4pm-7pm



# SAVE THE DATE!

**APWA – KC METRO CHAPTER**  **Mahaffie Stagecoach Picnic Shelter – Olathe, KS**

Come join us for an after-hours outdoor social event celebrating this year's chapter award and scholarship recipients. Registration will provide event access with food truck catering, drink tickets for local brewery and winery vendors, and a chance to win prizes in Public Works theme Bingo games! *Tickets to this event will be limited*, so watch for upcoming registration announcements.

**AWARDS • FOOD TRUCKS • DRINKS • BINGO • PRIZES**

More information coming soon...

## Chapter Leadership

### APWA 2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit & Budget - Bryan Blizzard  
 Awards - Reid Catt & Becky Bonebrake  
 By-Laws - Shawn Graff  
 Chapter Meetings - Thomas Renfro  
 Communications and Publicity - Allison Bruner  
 Community Service - Jack Renfro  
 Diversity and Inclusion - Zach Hardy  
 Education & Training - Zach Matteo & **Co-Chair Vacant**  
 Emergency Management & Homeland Security (PET) - Rob Cole  
 Engineering & Technology - Michael Haake  
 Facilities & Grounds - Dan Brown  
 Fleet Services - Mark Stinson & **Co-Chair Vacant**  
 Golf Tournament - Tawn Nugent  
 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 & Erik Troy  
 Myron Calkins Symposium - Shawn Graff  
 National Public Works Week - Sabrina Parker and Nicole Woods  
 Snow & Equipment Training Expo - Paul Dunn  
 Standards & Specifications - Michael Anderson & Mark Montgomery  
 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 - Vacant  
 Calendar/Events Coordinator - Kyle Dieckmann  
 MCIB/KCMMB - Todd LaTorella  
 Public Works Institute - Larry Frevert  
 Solid Waste Management - Lisa McDaniel

### KC APWA 2021 OFFICERS

President - Kyle Dieckmann  
 Vice President - Alysen Abel  
 Secretary - Nick Arena  
 Treasurer - Ben Will  
 Past President - Shawn Graff  
 Director (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) - Trey Whitaker  
 Director (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) - Tawn Nugent  
 Director (1<sup>st</sup> Year) - Patty Hilderbrand  
 Director (1<sup>st</sup> Year) - John Cooper  
 Director-At-Large - Bill Billings  
 Delegate - Bill Stogsdill  
 Alternate Delegate - Becky Bonebrake



## New Members

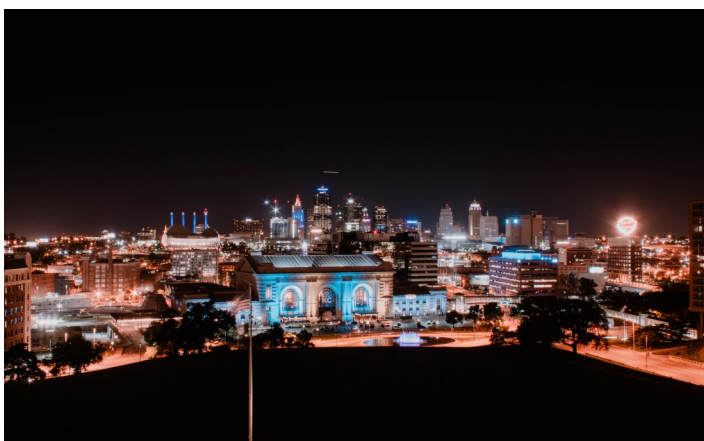
**Michele Biddison**, City of Olathe  
**Barbara Bille**, City of Bonner Springs  
**Benjamin Brichacek**, City of Grandview  
**Matthew Carver**, City of Harrisonville  
**Daniel David**, Ladtech Inc.  
**Ghaith Dinn**, City of Kansas City, MO  
**Allen Dover**, City of Harrisonville  
**Hayden Elmer**, City of Harrisonville  
**Tommy Hunter**, HNTB  
**John Johnson**, City of Harrisonville  
**Monte Johnson**, City of Grandview  
**Colby Kost**, City of Olathe

**Michael Kuhn**, City of Belton  
**Kevin Lewis**, HDR  
**Jared Lind**, City of Lenexa  
**Kristen Love**, City of Leawood  
**Haden Mattke**, City of Belton  
**Khalil Owens**, City of Grandview  
**John Page**, City of Olathe  
**Joshua Pudlowski**, Olsson  
**Sadie Robb**, Lochner  
**Collin Schmidt**, BHC Rhodes  
**John Westbrook**, City of Leawood

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](mailto: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 May. The deadline for the next issue will be Friday, May 14, 2021. Deadlines will be strictly enforced. Electronic formats are preferred, but not required. Send your stories to Allison Bruner via email at [abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com](mailto: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.