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National Public Works Week Awards Luncheon
 Tuesday, May 17

See page 8 for details.



Cooks for Kids!
 Friday, May 20

See page 10 for details.

12th Annual BBQ Challenge
 Friday, June 10

See page 12 for details.

**2015 PACE
AWARD
RECIPIENT**

**19 YEARS
IN A ROW!**



KC Metro APWA is social! Like us on Facebook!

See page 15 for details.

2016 ANNUAL PARTNERS

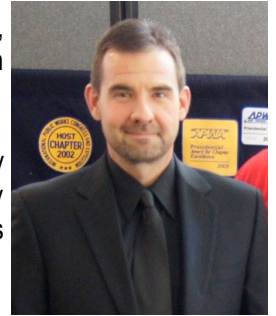
**Garver
HDR
TranSystems
Terracon
City of Leawood
Walter P. Moore
TREKK Design**

**HNTB
Shafer Kline & Warren
Burns & McDonnell
GBA
Affinis
HG Consult
BHC Rhodes**

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

FROM BILL STOGSDILL

I would like to start out by recognizing Dena Mezger, Director of Public Works for the City of Lee's Summit, MO as a 2016 Top 10 Public Works Leaders of the year. Congratulations Dena on one of the top accolades in our profession, well deserved.



The City of Grandview hosted the Module 1 of the Public Works Institute on April 5-7 at the View Community Center. 64 total attendees were trained on the Basic Supervisor Essentials for Public Works. This is, in my opinion, still one of the best benefits that we provide to our membership and incredibly affordable. A big thanks to Larry Frevert and the City of Grandview.

We are already 1/3 of the way through 2016, my how time has flown. The next few months are some of our busiest with National Public Works Week May 15 - 21 and our NPWW Luncheon on Tuesday, May 17. The BBQ Challenge and Membership Drive will follow shortly on June 10. Nationally, the North American Snow Conference is going on May 22-25 in Hartford, Connecticut and PWX is right around the corner in August! Our chapter always has a strong presence at these events and this year will be no exception.

Other items of note in the queue –

- Updated drafts of the standards and specs will be out for comment soon
- Water Resources Committee continues to work with KU on Calibration of Runoff Curve Numbers for the Kansas City Metro area
- Emerging Leaders Committee has a couple great events this spring/summer to unite Young Professionals

The 2018 PWX steering committee is meeting monthly and will be expanding as we move throughout the year. The goal will be to have all of the committees in place by the end of 2016. If you have interest in serving on a committee for the 2018 PWX, please sign up at <http://signup.knod.us/apwapwx/>.

In closing I would like to thank you all for what you do in public works and APWA. We have one of the best APWA chapters and it would not be possible without the volunteers and members.

DELEGATE DETAILS

FROM JOE JOHNSON

This is the time of year where National is notifying Chapters of their award winners. As some may know the Chapter has another Top 10. Our newest Top 10 award recipient is Dena Mezger, Public Works Director for the City of Lee's Summit. Congratulations to Dena, a great selection.



This month we will celebrate National Public Works Week the week of May 16 through 20. The Chapter will be celebrating NPWW on May 17 at the Embassy Suites at the Olathe Conference Center. Mark it on your calendar to be part of the celebration and honor Dena Mezger and all our National and Local award winners.

This year's National Congress or as it is now referred to PWX will be in Minneapolis, Minn. from August 28-31. Registration is open, so take a look at what is being offered and sign up to be part of this great event.

The KC Metro Chapter will be hosting the 2018 PWX. The management committee is working to finalize funding raising details and committee chairs. If you are interested in chairing a committee or volunteering please go to the Chapter's web site to sign-up on the volunteer link. Once we complete selecting committee chairs we will modify the signup to show the different committees so that you can sign up for a specific committee if you like. The management committee is off to a good start and looks forward to working with our Chapter members and the Chapters around us.

National Membership continues to hold above the 29,000 mark at 29,003. The 1st Time member offer has brought in 498 new members in 2016. The Metro Chapter's membership is 760. We anticipate membership growing over the next 2 years with the 2018 PWX being in Kansas City. We look forward to having new members to help us host this event.

The Council of Chapters held its Annual winter meeting on February 18-19 in Kansas City with more than 70 members in attendance.

Delegate Details—*cont. from page 2*

The committees used the opportunity to set strategic plans, continue working on assigned projects and resources, and to network with fellow delegates. Highlights from some of the Council of Chapters' committees included:

- Advocacy Committee is working to identify ways to increase APWA advocates within chapters by educating members on the importance of having members serve in this role, not only for APWA, but for local and state initiatives.
- PWX Review Committee is serving as a resource to staff to share ideas and feedback on opportunities to enhance the member experience at PWX this summer in Minneapolis.
- Finance Subcommittee of the Chapter Mentoring Committee continued its review of the Chapter Solicitation Survey Checklist, which will be sent to chapters later this year. The goal of the committee's review is to ensure that chapters fully understand National's request relating to chapter solicitation laws within their respective states.

For more information regarding the Council of Chapters, please contact [Sharica Smallwood-Ware](#) at 800-848-2792, ext. 5259.

As always, if you have an item that you want to bring before the Chapter or National, just let me know.

TECHNO MINUTE

FROM CHAD JOHNSON

UPDATING STORMWATER DESIGN WITH LOCAL DATA

The Kansas City Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association (KCAPWA) continues to be a leading organization in providing information and enhancing regional understanding of current stormwater management practices. The design criteria developed by KCAPWA are utilized by local cities and municipalities as a basis for protecting lives, infrastructure, and property. Stormwater and flood conveyance infrastructure goes largely unnoticed and unappreciated with all the sunny days and vast majority of rainy days as well. Some areas along streams and near lakes and reservoirs serve a dual purpose of personal recreation during dry times and flood conveyance or storage during times of high runoff.



Early efforts in the United States for design and construction of civil works to provide flood protection were primarily along the Mississippi River and its tributaries. These early efforts centered on providing dams, levees, and flood walls to protect existing infrastructure and development. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was created by Congress in 1933 to provide planning, construction, and long-term operation of multipurpose water resource development projects in the 40,000 square mile Tennessee River watershed. The TVA was the first Federal agency to broadly apply alternative approaches to control flood damage. The TVA also looked at land use regulation, design floods, and regulated floodplains to help reduce the potential risk of flooding and associated flood damage for existing and new developments (Wright 2000).

Initial efforts by TVA to quantify risk and design floods were vigorously debated to balance the need for cautious flood hazard delineations with the avoidance of overly restrictive and potentially politically untenable requirements on use of lands for development. Staff at TVA decided on two different flood events for planning, the "maximum probable" and "regional" design floods. These were based on historic records of flooding and some analysis of potential future floods. The regional flood was significantly smaller than the maximum probable design flood, and thus local regulators used this smaller regional design flood for floodplain regulation (Wright 2000).

Why does this matter?

This was one of the first attempts at defining a universal threshold to measure acceptable risk from flooding. Later studies and committee reports in the 1960s identified the 100-year flood as the best threshold to strike the balance between reasonable flood protection level and the avoidance of over-regulation of land. The standard of flood protection in the nation was set at the level of the 100-year flood (or more properly stated as the 1 percent annual chance event, which is more accurate but less commonly used) by the Federal Insurance Administration under the Authority of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, which established the National Flood Insurance Program (Wright 2000).

Techno Minute—cont. from page 3

The current KCAPWA stormwater design guidance continues to utilize 100-year flood protection as the standard in stormwater design, while utilizing more frequent design storms in design of stormwater conveyance elements (i.e. underground pipes or open channel conveyance). While the standard is well understood, the methodologies for determining the protection level on a particular site or location utilizes hydrologic information derived from regionalized or national equations or studies that are up to 40 years old. The available gage data and our understanding of hydrologic processes and inputs has improved dramatically over the past 40 years. In order to improve local applicability of hydrologic design principles and inputs, KCAPWA has teamed with Dr. Bruce M. McEnroe, Ph.D., PE and Dr. C. Bryan Young, Ph.D., PE at the University of Kansas to analyze the vast knowledge of historic hydrologic information that has been collected in the Kansas City region. They are currently working on a research project entitled, "Calibration of Storm Durations and Runoff Curve Numbers for the Kansas City Metro Area." Dr. McEnroe and Dr. Young used data from 28 watersheds in the Kansas City Area to identify proper values for Curve Numbers and appropriate design storms to use in design of conveyance elements and detention design, specific to the Kansas City area (McEnroe and Young 2016).

While the study is ongoing and won't be complete until close to December 2016, Dr. McEnroe and Dr. Young have provided some preliminary results. These results indicate that the appropriate Curve Number for open space is between 67 and 71, compared to the current design standard Curve Number, which is 74. They have also calculated preliminary rational "C" values ranging from 0.30 to 0.63, depending on the Annual Exceedance Probability of the storm; lower exceedance probability equates to a higher rational "C" value. Dr. McEnroe and Dr. Young have also developed preliminary regression equations for peak flows in undeveloped watersheds. They are still looking at appropriate storm durations as part of the study. While this data is still preliminary, final results will be available for review in a draft report and for reference in a final report. The results of this study will also be used to update and maintain the standards enumerated in Section 5600 of the KCAPWA design standards (McEnroe and Young 2016).

References

McEnroe, B. M., and Young, C. B. (2016). *Calibration of Runoff Curve Numbers for the Kansas City Metro*. KCAPWA, Lawrence, KS, 1-5.

Wright, J. M. (2000). *The Nation's Responses to Flood Disasters: A Historical Account*. Association of State Floodplain Managers, Madison, WI.



RECENT EVENTS

Public Works Institute—Public Works Basic Supervision Essentials—from *Larry Frevert*

The Kansas City Metro APWA Chapter's Public Works Institute presented Module I – Public Works Basic Supervision Essentials, April 5-7, 2016 at the "VIEW" Community Center in Grandview. Sixty-four current and aspiring public works supervisors and managers from across the metropolitan area and beyond attended. On the final day, attendance certificates were presented to the attendees, just before the following photo was taken:



Front Row (Kneeling or sitting on the floor, L to R): Ted Semandeni (Lenexa), Dennis Torrence (Overland Park), Cynthia Moeller-Krass (Shawnee), Jonathan Galvin (Grandview), Bryan Holt (Raytown), Craig Sullivan (Olathe), Nick Lightner (Lee's Summit), Jim Boyer (Spring Hill), Randy Sellers (Lenexa), Kevin West (Kansas City, MO), Steve Craig (Olathe), Chad Elliott (Belton), Taylor Cox (Lee's Summit), Steve Robbins (Lee's Summit)

Second Row (Kneeling or sitting on chairs, L to R): Bill Stogsdill (Fairway and Chapter President), Albert Whitaker (UGWYCO/KCK), Jeff Kuhne (Owensville), Eric Nobert (UGWYCO/KCK), Vern Fowler (Raytown), Marcus Hankins (Raytown), Clara Haenchen (Jefferson City), Abbie Aldridge (Fairway), Jesse Rhyneron (Overland Park), Terri Dexter (Lenexa), Alicia Herbert (Kansas City, MO), Rita Cassida (APWA), Greg Smith (Olathe), Rick Allen (Roeland Park), Patrick Martin (Grain Valley)

Standing (L to R): Frank Peoples (Leawood), Jeff McGill (Raytown), Aaron Oliphant (Riverside), Tim Underwood (Jackson County), Lyman Braden (Grandview), Don Bays (Belton), Don Tyler (Belton), Kyle Fleeman (Overland Park), Gary Dupus (Belton), Robin Carbrey (Olathe), Gale Lawson (Belton), John Belger (Mission), Shawn Graff (Lee's Summit), Norm Buescher (Riverside), Larry Sanchez (Olathe), Ryan Hays (Leawood), David Frazier (Belton), Joe Don Harrell (Belton), Kevin Turley (Ferlandview), Trey Whitaker (Edgerton), David Wright (Lenexa), Beau Ford (Spring Hill), Stephen Fisher (Jefferson City), Chip Voigts (Lenexa), Juan Campos (Lenexa), Jeffrey Anderson (UGWYCO/KCK), Oscar Banuelos (Lenexa), Chad Mooberry (UGWYCO/KCK), Craig Murphy (Lenexa), Shawn Stumpe (Jefferson City), Larry Frevert (PWI Director), Rick Roberts (Olathe), Mark Newell (Olathe), Chuck Aldridge (Fairway), Christopher Porras (Shawnee), Todd Rehg (Webster Groves)

The KC Metro APWA Chapter and its Public Works Institute appreciate the City of Grandview's gracious and complimentary use of their "VIEW" Community Center for the presentation of the three day training. We also express appreciation to the Grandview staff for their courtesies and assistance.

Thanks also to the talented and dedicated members of the KC Metro Chapter and the region who served as presenters for Module I. They were:

- Bill Stogsdill-Fairway
- Chuck Williams-Retired
- Joe Johnson – Leawood
- Nick Arena – Lenexa
- Rich Profaizer-Overland Park
- Doug Brown - Retired
- Dennis Randolph-Grandview
- Bill Ramsey – Retired
- Greg Bolon – Kansas City
- Ron Freyermuth – Retired
- Doug Wesselschmidt-Shawnee
- Caitlin Gard – Shawnee
- Kevin Taylor – Shawnee
- Tony Mesa – Raytown
- Dena Mezger-Lee's Summit
- Monty Zimmerman – Lenexa
- Mary Jaeger – Olathe
- Steve Hansen-Liberty
- Mabel Tinjaca-APWA
- Mahesh Sharma-Raytown
- Bob Hartnett – Lee's Summit
- Steve Aldridge – Lee's Summit
- Larry Frevert—APWA

Public Works Institute—Cont. from page 4

The KC Metro APWA Chapter's Public Works Institute is one of 18 authorized by APWA to provide training in public works supervision, management and leadership consistent with a curriculum focused on 11 core units of instruction presented in 90 hours of class time. The 11 core units are:

1. Supervisory Techniques and Skills
2. Fundamentals of Government
3. Basic Management Skills
4. Finance
5. Communications Skills
6. Resource Management Skills
7. Leadership Skills
8. Overview of Public Works Operations
9. Community Service/Customer Orientation Skills
10. Creating the Future
11. Impact of Law on Public Works

Nine of the Spring 2016 Module I attendees completed their fourth module of the training and will be recognized as Public Works Institute graduates at the Chapter's Holiday Party in December. As many as 18 additional people will be eligible to graduate in December if they attend Module II in the fall of this year. The nine attendees finishing the 90 hour curriculum this spring were:

1. John Belger – Mission
2. David Frazier – Belton
3. Norman Buescher – Riverside
4. Joe Don Harrell – Belton
5. Juan Campos – Lenexa
6. Larry Sanchez – Olathe
7. Robin Carbrey – Olathe
8. Trey Whitaker – Edgerton
9. Beau Ford – Spring Hill

The following are some photos taken during the three days of April 2016 training (All photos can be viewed at <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/PageDetails/8760>):



On Tuesday morning, Grandview City Administrator Cory Smith welcomed the attendees to Grandview



Bill Stogsdill, Fairway Public Works Director and KC Metro Chapter President and Dennis Randolph, Grandview Public Works Director also both welcomed the attendees on Tuesday morning and provided presentations later in the week



Nick Arena, Lenexa Municipal Services Director provided some thoughtful insights into public works and supervision ethics



Left: Group or team are a popular form of engagement for the attendees such as this table with Jim Boyer (Spring Hill), Nick Lightner (Lee's Summit) and Taylor Cox (Lee's Summit) working on a "Basic Public Works Math" project coached by Dennis Randolph



Right: Greg Smith (Olathe), Patrick Martin (Grain Valley), Steve Robbins (Lee's Summit), and Ted Semadeni (Lenexa) discuss a problem statement

Public Works Institute—Cont. from page 5



This table of attendees, Mark Newell (Olathe), Craig Murphy (Lenexa), Jeff McGill (Raytown) and Gale Lawson (Belton) ponder their response to a question posed to their team



Lee's Summit Public Works Director Dena Mezger, an APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year for 2016, spoke to the class on formal and informal business communications



Belton's David Frazier responded to a question from the presenter



Doug Wesselschmidt, Kevin Taylor and Caitlin Gard, all of Shawnee, provided an informative and interesting presentation on multi-generational workplaces



Luncheon meals (lasagna-Tuesday, pizza-Wednesday and Jack Stack BBQ-Thursday) along with the snacks and beverages each day were very popular



Chapter President Bill Stogsdill (far left) and PWI Director Larry Frevert (far right) joined the nine PWI attendees who, with this module, completed their 90 hours of training. From Bill's left, they are: Robin Carbrej (Olathe), John Belger (Mission), Norm Buescher (Riverside), Larry Sanchez (Olathe), David Frazier (Belton), Joe Don Harrell (Belton), Trey Whitaker (Edgerton), Beau Ford (Spring Hill) and Juan Campos (Lenexa)



Left: On Thursday, Grandview Mayor Leonard Jones happened to be in the "VIEW" and dropped in to address the attendees. Mahesh Sharma, Raytown City Administrator and one of the PWI presenters is in the background

The KC Metro Chapter plans to present Public Works Institute Module II – Public Works Supervision Skills in October 2016. Watch for advance notice in a future edition of PubNews and on the KCAPWA website: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/>

Spread the word about your good works!

Has your organization volunteered time or provided resources to help out others?
If you'd like to highlight your outreach event, send information to the Pub News editor, Caitlin Gard,
via e-mail: cgard@cityofshawnee.org. Photos are encouraged.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2016 National Public Works Week Awards Luncheon
Tuesday, May 17th
Embassy Suites by Hilton Kansas City
Olathe Conference Center
10401 S. Ridgeview Road
Olathe, Kansas

11:00AM - Registration
11:30AM to 1:00PM - Awards Luncheon

Menu: J Bar House Salad;
Chicken Saltimbocca (breast of chicken
stuffed with sage, prosciutto, spinach, and
garlic lemon cream);
Baby potatoes;
Parmesan dusted asparagus;

Desert - Tequi-Lime Cheesecake

Vegetarian Option - Sundried Tomato Risotto
Cake (herb roasted fingerling potatoes, baby
carrots, asiago cauliflower puree)

Mark your calendar now to attend the National Public Works Week (NPWW) Luncheon hosted by the KC Metro Chapter of APWA on Tuesday, May 17th, at the Embassy Suites - Olathe Conference Center. Our celebration of Public Works will include recognition of the local and national award winners from our chapter, a special guest speaker (TBD) and more!



Registration deadline is Friday, May 6th - To register yourself or a group to attend the luncheon, please visit: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net/EventDetails/8733> to complete the online registration form. **Special Note to 2016 Annual Partners:** If your organization is a 2016 Annual Partner of the KC Metro Chapter, a table of ten (10) at the NPWW Luncheon is included, so please plan your number of registrations from your organization accordingly.

Slideshow Presentation - In addition to showcasing our local and national award winners, a slideshow presentation will feature various projects from throughout the Kansas City area. If your organization has recent public works projects to showcase during the luncheon, please submit your PowerPoint slides to Paul Lindstrom at plindstrom@ci.shawnee.ks.us by Friday, May 6th. Please limit submittals to one project per slide, and include the project name, a picture/rendering, names of the organizations involved, and the date the project was constructed or will be constructed. If you would like to send a CD or flash drive, please mail to: Paul Lindstrom, Shawnee City Hall, 11110 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, KS 66203. We reserve the right to limit the number of submissions.

Proclamations from Local Municipalities - Local municipalities are asked to provide a signed proclamation from the governing body declaring the week of May 15th-21st, 2016, as National Public Works Week. A display board will be provided to showcase the proclamations. Please bring the proclamation from your municipality to the luncheon on May 17th.

Free Parking - Located adjacent to the Olathe Conference Center.

Speaker - TBD

For questions about the luncheon, please contact the NPWW Committee Chair, Dan Brown by phone at (816) 701-2100 or by email at DLBrown@walterpmoore.com.

APWA KC Metro Chapter



HARVESTERS FOOD DRIVE

Location:

Embassy Suites by Hilton Kansas City Olathe Conference Center

10401 S. Ridgeview Dr.

Olathe, KS 66061

(LOOK FOR THE HARVESTERS DONATION BINS)

Time: 11:30 AM, MAY 17, 2016



**Donate Canned Goods
or CASH and receive an
EXTRA RAFFLE TICKET!**

Cash donations can be made at <http://npww.harvestersvfd.org/>



Cooks for Kids

Friday, May 20, 2016

4:00 – 7:30 p.m.

2525 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO



We need 7-10 volunteers to help cook burgers and brats, show equipment & talk with families of children who are patients at Children's Mercy Hospital.



**RONALD MCDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES
KANSAS CITY**

Hosted by the Community Service, Mo/Kan Superintendents & Diversity Committees



KC Metro Young Professional's Inaugural Mini Golf Tournament

Where: Parkville Mini Golf

Main & Mill Street

Parkville, MO 64152

When: Thursday, June 2, 2016

Price: \$20 per person (includes golf, snacks & beverages)

Schedule: 3:45 pm Check-In

4:00 pm Shotgun Start

Awards & Pizza @ Stone Canyon following Tournament Play

Registration: kcmetro.apwa.net/

Questions: Please contact Justin Likes (jlukes@trekllc.com)



As a part of a nation-wide APWA initiative, the KC Metro Emerging Leaders Committee (also known as Young Professionals) has renewed its initiative in promoting our “young” and/or “new” public works-related professionals in participating in the APWA organization.

The Emerging Leaders kick-off event was a Kansas City Streetcar tour of the Vehicle Maintenance Facility with a happy hour that followed at Harry's Country Club. The tour was limited to 30 people, and all spots were filled! We had a great turn-out and learned a lot of great information about the new Streetcar line, its operations, and the facility itself. Although we didn't get to see the streetcar itself, the event was a great success!

This summer the ELC is looking to hold multiple events including an Emerging Leaders retreat, a Mini-Golf Tournament, and a community service event. We are also hoping to organize an EL carpool to the mini-golf tournament scheduled for 4pm on Thursday June 2nd at Parkville Mini Golf. The cost is \$20 per person and will be followed with awards (and pizza!) at Stone Canyon immediately following the tournament. The committee is also looking to partner with the Community Service Committee to build a rain barrel system for The Blue Door project in July.

The Emerging Leaders Committee aims to promote active involvement of all members regardless of age or experience at all levels of the organization. As a means to provide the opportunity for our new public works professionals to develop a far-reaching network, the ELC is actively working with other KC Metro committees to encourage Emerging Leader engagement throughout the chapter and increase active participation in all committees. Through these steps, the KC Metro emerging leaders will have the opportunity to create a network of peers that will develop not-so-distant future leaders in our Chapter and nationwide.

Involvement is encouraged for all public works professionals from the director level to field personnel from office managers to new graduates. If you are interested in getting involved, or know of someone who might be interested, contact Rob Kline at rkline@gbateam.com for more information. The KC Metro chapter is excited to reinvent the enriching leader/young professional initiative and to see our new members become excited and engaged in this great organization.

**12th
Annual**

APWA



Kansas City Metro Chapter

BBQ CHALLENGE AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Mark your Calendars!!

Friday June 10th, 2016

Knights of Columbus Park - Shawnee, KS

This is a friendly team competition with lots of BBQ, fun, and awards!!! Even if you are not cooking this will be a "Must Attend" event.



Start organizing your teams. Maximum of 18 teams allowed.

Royals

**FRIDAY
JUNE 24**
TAILGATE (LOT N) 4:30
(\$15) GAME 7:15

ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

PARTNERING WITH



AND OUR
TAILGATE SPONSOR

BHC RHODES
Civil Engineering Surveying Utilities

CONSTANT CONTACT SIGN UP DEADLINE FRIDAY MAY 27
contact tyler.justin.garrett@gmail.com



Save the Date!!!



ANNUAL KC METRO GOLF TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 AT PRAIRIE HIGHLANDS GOLF CLUB

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diversity Committee - from Abdul Yahaya

Knock Knock...Who's there?

Knock knock. Who's there? Poor communication. Poor communication who? Please deposit 25 cents to continue your call. Now if you have never used a pay phone you might not get this joke or better yet it was just a bad joke. However, when it comes to diversity, communication is an extremely important tool and should never be taken as a joke in any company or organization. I want to address three common forms of communication: "non-verbal," "verbal," and "written" communication. On any given day we will use each one of these forms of communication to express our perspective with our family, friends and co-workers. It is so important to realize that our diversity among ourselves can easily influence how affective our communication is perceived with a wide demographic of people. The great potential and strength that our companies and organizations have gained through diversity can only be reached if we are united in our communication efforts. The word "united" in no way means the same because that would defeat the point in developing a diverse work force. I want you to think of "united" as the collective effort to communicate. As I mentioned earlier there are three forms of communication "non-verbal" that makes up 55%, "verbal" that makes up 38% and "written" that make up 7% of our communication. This percentage evaluation can be credited to famous researcher Albert Mehrabain and his studies in 1967. The reason I bring up this statistic is that our forms of communication have evolved yet the way we perceive and receive has changed very little.

Written communication through Email can widely be agreed upon as our current popular choice of communication. With that being said, we are doing a majority of our communication through the smallest percentage of how best we receive communication. Writing style is heavily influenced by an individual's diversity and background. Certain words and expressions are only used by select groups. If you fall into the culture of government as I do, you may find yourself using acronyms for every other word when writing an email. I will share with you a secret, I find myself doing a Google search to decode certain acronyms. Also, have you ever received that Email written in all CAPS and can't help but wonder if the person on the other end is yelling at you? Email is a great form of providing vital information and must be used in a way that is inclusive to a diverse group. "The two words: information and communication are often used interchangeably, but they signify quite different things. Information is giving out; communication is getting through." –Sydney J. Harris. I would recommend that everyone recognizes their own writing style and that anytime you are sending an Email to a group of recipients that you consider the diversity and be conscious of being inclusive.

Verbal communication or better know as the "Phone Call" in many situations is another form in which diversity contributes a great deal. Public Works has long had two distinct groups of workers which can be simply categorized as the "office workers" and the "field workers." These two groups among the many other collective and diverse subsets within them, rely on good verbal communication. One of the key barriers as well as champions of verbal communication is a person's tone. When you hear or see the word diversity the first idea of vocal tone I bet rarely comes to mind. A person's tone or how comfortable an individual feels changing their pitch in a conversation most likely is influenced by their current and past environment and experiences. Most of the time a change in a individuals tone is triggered by an emotional response (i.e. frustration or excitement) which leads to barriers. I recommend in order to champion a good verbal conversation that you practice changing your tone from a mental recognition of the environment and situation. It may seem like you are performing the same exact action but when practicing thoughtful pitch and tone variations you will be able to communicate once again with a wider range of groups and co-workers.

Think about a weekly staff meeting, scheduled conference meeting, and the emergency response gathering. Have you ever wondered why when a really important decision or solution is needed, we all come together? One of the many great things about our differences and diversity is that our similarities and common interests are what bring us together even if we appear different. Non-verbal communication makes up 55% of our communication for a reason. Everyone wants to feel confident that their message was included in the decision making process and helped stimulate a proactive and productive result. The only way to achieve that feeling of confidence is to witness other's non-verbal communication through "body language." I will share this story. I was part of a conference meeting a while back with out of town guests from the Northeast region and our meeting was hosted in the Midwest of the country. The meeting was hosted in the spring time and about halfway through our meeting the emergency tornado sirens activated. All of the local meeting members, including myself, just continued meeting. As I looked up at our guests I could physically see the worry and early signs of fear through their body language. I could only imagine what they were thinking; Why are we sitting in the middle of "Tornado Alley" with sirens going off and no one is taking shelter? I quickly spoke up and said to them, the tornado sirens are tested the first Wednesday of every month and today is the first Wednesday. It takes awareness to survive a tornado even if that tornado is in the minds of others. Having good communication skills, that are enriched with training and understanding for the need of diversity and inclusion, serve as best practices in almost every environment.

NEW MEMBERS

Brent Baker, Precision Aerial Reconnaissance

Don Bays, City of Belton

Conrad Bonney, Rockhurst University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

Robert Boyer, WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff

James Carney, City of Prairie Village

Michael Christopher, City of Shawnee

Bridget Gray, Rockhurst University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

John Hayes, Rockhurst University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

Billie Hufford, University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

Bernardo Koleci, University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

Brice Lawson, City of Lee’s Summit

Stacey Lowe, City of Kansas City, Missouri

Samuel Martel, University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

David McCumber, University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

Lucas Moore, University & University of Missouri– Kansas City

Mark O’Connor, Info Tech

Michael Schmitz, Terracon Consultants, Inc.

Ryan Vaughan, City of Belton

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Like KC Metro Chapter APWA on Facebook

To receive the most up to date information about recent and upcoming events and network with other KC Metro Chapter APWA members, like us on Facebook! Just login and search for “KC Metro Chapter APWA”!



LOOKING FOR A SUMMER INTERN? MAYBE WE CAN HELP!

Aaron Castro, KC Metro APWA Student Chapter Committee Chair, has been working hard to expand the presence of APWA on the UMKC campus. He has had the opportunity to meet with several students, many whom are considering careers in public works/engineering and are interested in a summer internship. If your company is looking for a student intern, please contact Aaron at ajcastro@HNTB.com or 913.312.4966. If a student asks about internship opportunities, he would be glad to pass your company’s information on. Aaron is committed to student outreach efforts in the community and to providing opportunities for APWA education and careers, and this is a great way to further that effort!

Open Positions

[City of Edwardsville—Public Works Director](#)

[City of Fairway—Maintenance Worker](#)

[Unified Government—Deputy Director Public Works/Water Pollution Control](#)

[Unified Government—Public Works Executive Director](#)

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

KC APWA 2016 OFFICERS

President - Bill Stogsdill
Vice President - Rob Krewson
Secretary - Jason Meyers
Treasurer - Dan Brown
Past President - Tim Ross
Director (2nd Year) - Cory Clark
Director (2nd Year) - Shawn Graff
Director (1st Year) - Kyle Diekmann
Director (1st Year) - Tim Morgan
Director-At-Large - Robert Kluender
Delegate - Joe Johnson

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 cgard@cityofshawnee.org with "Beam Me Up!" in the subject line.

Publisher: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
Editor: Caitlin Gard
Staff: Bill Stogsdill

INTERESTED IN WRITING FOR THE APWA PUB NEWS?

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, June 24, 2016. Deadlines will be strictly enforced. Electronic formats are preferred, but not required. Send your stories to Caitlin Gard via email to cgard@cityofshawnee.org.

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.

APWA 2016 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit & Budget - Alysén Abel
Awards - Tony Meyers and Becky Bonebrake
By-Laws - Tim Ross
Chapter Meetings - Joe Burgett
Communications and Publicity - Caitlin Gard
Community Service - Shawn Graff
Diversity - Abdul Yahaya
Education & Training - S. Joji Calabro
Emergency Management & Homeland Security (PET) - Scott Ward
Emerging Leaders - Rob Kline
Engineering & Technology - Michael Haake
Facilities & Grounds - Tom Audley
Fleet Services - Howard Mann
Golf Tournament - Tawn Nugent
Governmental Affairs - Travis Levitt & Joab Ortiz
Historical - Ernie Longoria
Holiday Party - Julie McNiff
K-12 Student Outreach - David Smalling
Leadership & Management - Nick Arena
Membership - Matt Spencer
Membership BBQ & Steak Fry - Brian Ladd
Mo-Kan Public Works Association - Robert Kluender
Myron D. Calkins Scholarship - Shannon Jeffries & Phil Herrman
National Public Works Week - Dan Brown
Nominating Committee - Tim Ross
Past President Committee - Tim Ross
Snow & Equipment Training Expo - Chris Porras
Standards & Specifications - Dena Mezger
Student Chapter - Aaron Castro & Tim Cope
Sustainable Infrastructure - Ann Schroer & Brenda Macke
Transportation - Jaclyn White
Utility & Public Right-of-Way - John Cooper
Water Resources Management - Chad Johnson

Appointments, Liaisons, and Coordinators

ACEC-APWA Liaison - John Skubal
Calendar/Events Coordinator - Karen Scherer
Joint Engineers Council - Howard Lubliner
MCIB/KCMMB - Todd LaTorella
Solid Waste Management - Lisa McDaniel

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