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*cover photo taken before COVID-19 by Joshua Drake*

*middle photo by Kaitlin Keane*

*back cover design by Hayley Robb*

*magazine design by Hayley Robb*
President’s Statement
Darin Hensley, PE, PLS

Am I on mute? Greetings fellow NSPE-KY members. It is truly my honor and privilege to serve as the 87th President of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers. Taking office during a worldwide pandemic certainly has presented a few challenges. I’m extremely proud of our leadership team and staff who have pulled together and risen to the challenge of meeting the needs of our membership. I pass along my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to my friend Kristen Crumpton as she moves on and passes the gavel to me. Kristen and I certainly didn’t expect to lead our organization through unprecedented times back in 2007 during our class of Leadership PE.

A few updates to share regarding the ongoing and upcoming tasks of NSPE-KY.

First, welcome back to Russ Romine! On July 1 we officially welcomed Russ back as Executive Director for ACEC-KY, NSPE-KY and the KEF. Russ has already hit the ground running! I recommend you reach out and encourage him as he gets up to speed. Secondly, as you are no doubt aware by now, we made the difficult decision to cancel the 85th annual convention. This decision was not made lightly and impacts several things going into next year. We were unable to present our annual awards. We were unable to recognize our Leadership PE graduates. We were unable to hold our annual membership meeting and we were unable to swear in our new group of officers. A small group of us recently convened at the Kentucky Engineering Center to hold a swearing in and change of the guard. The pandemic has delayed the development of our annual budget, another critical item that we are now focusing on. We are making plans to recognize those deserving award winners and LPE graduates as we speak, with plans to host a formal ceremony during next year’s annual convention.

Another impact of canceling the convention is the loss of access for our members to obtain professional development hours. We’ve hosted several free or low cost webinars as a service to the members in hopes that no one faces a hardship attempting to obtain their continuing education credits. Please be on the lookout for additional opportunities, and as always reach out to the Kentucky Engineering Center with any needs or requests. Additionally, those of you with three-tier memberships (national memberships) have access to 15 free PDH’s through the NSPE website.

EVENT UPDATES
The impacts of the pandemic greatly affected the 2020 MATHCOUNTS competition, as well. The chapter competitions were held in February, but both the State and National competitions were canceled. Based on guidance from national, we were able to utilize the chapter competition results in order to rank those finishing highest in the state. I’m pleased to report that both the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville awarded scholarships based upon these rankings. We are extremely blessed to have the support of the engineering deans involved at both schools. You can read more about this year’s MATHCOUNTS season on page 8.

Moving forward along those lines, we have made the decision to forgo Leadership PE for this session. As any of the alumni will tell you, much of the knowledge gained from LPE is due to the relationships that can only be built by in person attendance. NSPE also shifted gears and PECON2020 was held virtually August 3-7, 2020. One key point for this event was that all students could register for FREE! Kudos to NSPE!
Typically the incoming President shares the goals they hope to accomplish throughout the year. I do have a goal and had planned to kick it off at the annual Leadership Retreat. Of course the retreat never materialized due to the rampant spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Nonetheless I am confident we will be able to come together as a team and make progress throughout the year, which really is the essence of my goal anyway. Instead of setting a short-term, annual goal for our organization I am taking the initiative to pull together the next three or four projected presidents (per our organizational structure) and make plans that will impact our society for years to come. I’m hopeful we can get the leadership team together in order to develop and share our goals in the near future.

**DIVERSITY IN THE INDUSTRY**

I encourage you to read this issue’s feature article entitled “Fighting for Something Bigger” on page 18. This article focuses on minorities within our industry, and specifically how the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) plays a role. It is shear happenstance that I have the honor and opportunity to share this magazine with an article that speaks volumes about the importance of diversity within our industry. Diversity is a key value of Day & Zimmermann, the parent company of my employer Mason & Hanger. Many workplaces start each meeting with a safety moment, we take it one step farther and cover both safety and diversity at the onset of each meeting. I encourage you all to consider adding a diversity moment as an agenda item to the beginning of your meetings. It is important enough to talk about on a daily basis.

In conclusion, I would be remiss if I didn’t take a moment to thank the mentors I’ve had the honor to work with through the years. I won’t name names, but I would not be where I am without the impact each of you made in my life. I’m grateful for the loving support of my family and the enthusiastic support of my employer Mason & Hanger. I wouldn't be able to serve as your President without them backing me up.

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Gratitude. That is a word that packs a lot of punch. It’s a word that helps frame the lens through which one sees the world around them. In these current times, it is a word that helps put things in perspective and serves as a reminder for what’s important in life. For me, I am grateful to be back as executive director at the Kentucky Engineering Center (KEC) and I am honored to serve in this position for a second time in my career. I am grateful for the leadership of NSPE-KY, the Kentucky Engineering Foundation, and ACEC-KY and thank them for the confidence they have expressed in me. Mostly, I am grateful for the opportunity to return to the KEC and work alongside the dedicated volunteer leadership of all three organizations as they promote the membership and advance the profession.

Please join me in congratulating Darin Hensley as he has assumed the reins as president of NSPE-KY. I have had the pleasure of working with Darin in the past and can say without hesitation, he is as dedicated to NSPE-KY and its mission as anyone I have ever seen. Darin has served in a variety of capacities at the chapter and state level, in addition to his dedication and service to programs like MATHCOUNTS. Darin is also a graduate of Leadership PE and learned early in his career the importance of involvement, volunteer leadership and giving back to the profession. I am excited to work with Darin and the rest of your NSPE-KY leadership over the coming months.

Recently, outgoing past president Matt Rogers swore in Darin, Kristen Crumpton and Wes Sydnor. At the swearing in, masks were worn, proper distancing was in place, and Wes joined virtually. The remaining officers will take the oath of office in the coming days.
I want to recognize, thank, and congratulate Kristen Crumpton for her leadership and direction over the past year. Dealing with the impacts of a global pandemic, it’s safe to say that Kristen faced challenges that no other president in the history of NSPE-KY has faced. We are grateful for her steady leadership and her commitment to the mission of NSPE-KY over the past year and we look forward to benefiting from her experience and wisdom as she continues service on the board of directors as immediate past president.

2020-21 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
In addition to new roles for Darin and Kristen, here is your executive committee for the NSPE-KY board of directors this year:

- President – R. Darin Hensley
- President Elect – Lora Boller
- Treasurer – Wes Sydnor
- Secretary – Neal Crawford
- Bluegrass Region VP – Liz Dienst
- Central Region VP – Marvin Wolfe
- Eastern Region VP – Michael Enders
- Louisville Region VP – John Loechle
- Western Region VP – Dusty Barrett
- National Delegate – Lee Czor
- Past President – Kristen Crumpton

I would also like to highlight representation that NSPE-KY now has at the national level. Mike Harris assumed the position of southeast region director on the NSPE National Board of Directors on August 1. We are fortunate to have a voice on the national stage, and we are thankful for Mike’s continued service to NSPE and NSPE-KY. Having served at all levels of the Society throughout his career as a professional engineer, Mike brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new role. Thank you for serving, Mike!

COVID-19 UPDATE
We all continue to deal with the impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19) in nearly every aspect of our life. The challenges associated with a 1-in-100-year global pandemic are numerous, and the uncertainty for how things will unfold over the next several months is great. Like everyone, trying to predict what life will be like until a vaccine is available is difficult. As you know, the response to COVID-19 has caused the cancellation of many NSPE-KY events over the spring and summer months. Please see below for the latest impacts to events and programs.

As I continue getting my arms around things here, I want to offer an open invitation to everyone to reach out and give me your thoughts, suggestions, and questions on anything you have about NSPE-KY. Along with Bryan Smith and Edward Warren, we are here to serve you!

COVID-19 Event Updates

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<tr>
<td>2020 KSPE Annual Convention</td>
<td>CANCELED</td>
<td>Plans are underway for next year’s convention at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021 Leadership PE class</td>
<td>CANCELED</td>
<td>Graduation ceremony for the current class will take place at next year’s Annual Convention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 Golf Classic</td>
<td>CANCELED</td>
<td>Mark your calendars for next year’s Golf Classic on September 15, 2021.</td>
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Training Opportunities
Please visit [www.kyengcenter.org](http://www.kyengcenter.org) for updates.

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“Gratitude. That is a word that packs a lot of punch. It’s a word that helps frame the lens through which one sees the world around them.”

— Russ Romine
All across the country, the impacts of COVID-19 are affecting every facet of normal life and schedules. This unfortunately included the 2020 Kentucky State MATHCOUNTS competition.

On February 15th, 2020, over 850 middle school students from more than 100 schools across the Commonwealth competed in the chapter competitions, which were held in 13 regional locations. The 13 first place individual finishers at these chapter competitions have already brought home a four-year tuition scholarship to the University of Kentucky and a four-year $1,000 scholarship to Western Kentucky University, and a $500 cash scholarship from the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers.

First place chapter winners
Brody Kilburn (Ashland Chapter)
Aneesh Sharma (Big Sandy Chapter)
Joseph Vulakh (Bluegrass Chapter)
Benjamin Carey (Capital Chapter)
Andrew Pham (Cumberland Falls Chapter)
David Daniel (Green River Chapter)
Owen Graham Cody (Kentucky Lake Chapter)
Mikalah Mullins (Kentucky River Chapter)
Amy Chen (Louisville Chapter)
Daniel Berry (Mammoth Cave Chapter)
Grayson Rohmiller (Northern Kentucky Chapter)
Sayed Damaa (Pine Mountain Chapter)

These individuals, as well as many others, would have advanced to the State Competition that was to be held on March 21st at Western Kentucky University. With the unfortunate circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the National MATHCOUNTS organization had to make the difficult decision to cancel all State competitions and the 2020 National Competition. However, the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville recognized the dedication and commitment of our talented Kentucky mathletes and chose to honor their scholarship commitments despite the State Competition being canceled.

We greatly appreciate the Universities and their willingness to award these prestigious scholarships. After guidance from National MATHCOUNTS, Kentucky MATHCOUNTS used the chapter competition scores to assess the top 10 highest ranking students in order to award the scholarships. The score ranking procedure included the combination of the Sprint and Target rounds to create one final total score and assess who were the top finishers; adhering to the nationally recognized rules for tie breakers.

2020 Kentucky state individual winners
Joseph Vulakh (Tates Creek Middle School – Lexington)
Amy Chen (Meyzeek Middle School – Louisville)
Ishani Tarkar (Meyzeek Middle School – Louisville)
Jonah Hubert (Winburn Middle School – Lexington)
Gopalaniruddh Tadinada (Meyzeek Middle School)
Justin Wong (Winburn Middle School – Lexington)
Varsha Venkataraman (Meyzeek Middle School – Louisville)
Ben Carey (Saint Leo Middle School – Versailles)
Victoria Fu (Meyzeek Middle School – Louisville)
Laura Tong (Winburn Middle School – Lexington)

The top four ranking Mathletes receive a 4-year, full tuition scholarship to their choice of the University of Kentucky or the University of Louisville. Those ranking 5th through 10th place receive a 4-year, $1,500 tuition scholarship to either school. MATHCOUNTS was founded in 1983 by the National Society of Professional Engineers, CNA
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Insurance Company, and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and is celebrating its 37th year. It is estimated that over 250,000 students nationally and 9,000 students in the Commonwealth of Kentucky will be exposed to MATHCOUNTS through the classroom, home study, or private coaching experiences.

MATHCOUNTS represents the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers’ (NSPE-KY) on-going commitment to encourage 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students to gain leadership skills, problem solving techniques, and a general understanding for solving problems in real world situations while using their love for math. Engineers hope to impress such skills to students as essential to their future academic and professional careers. Students compete individually and as teams in written and fast-paced, oral, and often awe-inspiring matches designed to stimulate their exposure to a wide range of mathematics.

NSPE-KY, headquartered in Frankfort, Kentucky, sponsors the MATHCOUNTS program through its non-profit, education-based corporation, the Kentucky Engineering Foundation, Inc. The program is operated and administered by volunteers from the engineering community with financial support by many companies, individuals, and organizations.

The Kentucky MATHCOUNTS program would not be possible without our supporters. Among those supporters are the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University, which provide the scholarships. Other financial supporters include: American Council of Engineering Companies of Kentucky, Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, Kentuckiana Post of the Society of American Military Engineers, Stantec Consulting Services, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc., Kentucky Geotechnical Engineering Group, Integrated Engineering and Louisville Community Foundation for the Zoeller Company.

Kentucky’s MATHCOUNTS program is one of the most successful in the United States with several Top Ten success stories, including having the 1995 National Champion and placing 9th overall in 2000 and 2007. The program succeeds by making math achievement as challenging, exciting, and important as a school sport. “Mathletes” prepare all year to compete individually and in teams and their performance is impressive.

View the MATHCOUNTS website at www.kentuckymathcounts.org or www.mathcounts.org.

My involvement with MATHCOUNTS has been nothing short of a tremendous experience. I have been very fortunate to have experienced it at each level, from the Chapter competition to the National competition. It is very evident that at each level, MATHCOUNTS continues to put kids first. They continue to provide more ways to include students of all levels, backgrounds, and interests. It shows in the competition series, the math club, and the video challenge. Every person I have met and worked with in the MATHCOUNTS organization shares the same values and passion for engaging all students in the world of Math.

— Matthew Cramton, Meyzeek Middle School
COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the board of licensure has made numerous changes to its operations. The office is no longer open to walk-in customers. Licensees, applicants and citizens are urged to utilize online services and to attempt to have their issues resolved via email or telephone before considering an in person visit.

If an in person visit is the only alternative, an appointment can be arranged. All visitors are required to undergo a temperature check and answer COVID-19 screening questions before entering, and if granted entry must wear a mask.

Staff is working from home to the greatest extent practical while still providing excellent service to all licensees, applicants and citizens. The office remains open with minimal staff on its pre-COVID schedule, Monday through Friday 8:00am through 4:30pm.

Board and committee meetings originally scheduled for April 16 and 17 were delayed. Those meetings were successfully held on April 30 and May 1 virtually utilizing Amazon Chime. Visitors were able to see and hear the meeting live via the Internet. The committee and board meetings scheduled for July 30 and 31 were held on time, also via Chime. were held on time, also via Chime. Instructions for public access will be posted on the board website.

A meeting of the Southern Zone of NCEES, originally scheduled for April 2020 in Houston was canceled. The NCEES Annual meeting, originally scheduled for August 2020 in Chicago was also canceled. In lieu of an in-person annual meeting, member boards will attend a series of webinars in which NCEES officers, committees and staff will report on NCEES activities. The business meeting which was usually conducted at the annual meeting, will be held virtually.

Changes to exams brought on by COVID-19 are presented later in this article.

LICENSE RENEWALS

If you are a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) and/or Professional Land Surveyor (PLS) and the first letter of your last name is within the range L through Z, your license expired on June 30, 2020. However late renewals are still being accepted.

You can renew your license online. Just go to the board website www.kyboels.ky.gov then click “Already Licensed” and follow the prompts, or type this link in your browser: https://www.kyboels.ky.gov/Renewals/Pages/default.aspx. Once you are there, just answer a few questions and pay with your credit card.

The board sends out a renewal notice to every active license holder at least 30 days prior to the expiration date to the address provided to the board by the licensee. This notice notwithstanding, each individual licensee is ultimately responsible for maintaining his or her license in current status.

While we have made the renewal process easy, there are a few important tips to remember.
RENEWAL TIPS

Renew on time
All licenses expire on June 30 of the licensee’s renewal year. Those who renew after that date will be charged a 10% late payment penalty for each month or part of a month that the renewal is late. Moreover, while the regulations permit a licensee to renew his or her license for up to a year after it expires, the licensee is not authorized to practice engineering or surveying on an expired license.

Answer all questions completely and honestly
This includes questions about compliance with CPD, disciplinary action by another licensing board, and criminal convictions. If there is an issue, board staff will work with you to resolve it. Providing false information on a renewal application can be grounds for disciplinary action against your license.

Avoid a late renewal CPD audit
If you need more incentive to renew on time, be aware that any licensee who renews on or after September 1 of his or her renewal year is subject to an automatic CPD audit. We suggest that you set a reminder in whatever calendar or scheduling system you use to make sure you don’t miss a renewal.

**It’s a good idea to regularly update your contact information to the board, including mailing address,**

FIRM RENEWALS
All Business Entity Permits (aka Firm Permits) expire on December 31 every year. The rules regarding late renewal penalties and prohibition of practice while expired apply to Firm Permits in the same way as they apply to individual licenses.

The window for online renewal of Firm Permits will open about mid-November. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

COVID-19 EXAM CHANGES
NCEES canceled the April paper and pencil exams due to the pandemic. The October exams will go on as scheduled for all examinees except the PE - Electrical and Computer: Power which has been converted to Computer Based Testing (CBT) on an accelerated timetable. NCEES has added an extra day to the October exam schedule in an attempt to accommodate those who were unable to take the exam in April. Exams, which are normally offered only once per year in the spring have been added to the October exam schedule. While capacity limits are likely to remain in place during October, I am happy to say that the Kentucky Board will have sufficient capacity to accommodate all of its registered examinees.

Computer based testing centers were also closed for a period of time, but have since reopened under new guidelines. Examinees should expect fewer scheduling and exam location options as a result of these new precautions but should be able to secure an exam seat without much difficulty. Rescheduling of examinees who were canceled due to the shutdown is not automatic. Examinees are urged to be proactive in scheduling and confirming their CBT exam time and location.

NCEES is continuing its conversion from paper and pencil exams to Computer Based Testing. Chemical, Environmental and Mechanical exams have already converted to CBT and are generally available year round.

Nuclear, Fire Protection, Industrial and Petroleum have also converted to CBT, but due to the relatively small number of examinees, these exams are offered only one day per year in October. In response to current capacity restrictions, NCEES has added an extra day for these exams on January 12, 2021.

NCEES canceled its October administration of the PE Electrical and Computer: Power exam and will instead offer it via CBT. Registration is open with appointments available beginning December 1, 2020. Please note that October cancellations are not automatically rescheduled.

The Mining & Minerals Processing and Electronics: Controls & Communication exams are next on the schedule for conversion with the last paper administration being October 2020.
Michael Paul Brockman, an engineer in training (EIT) from Morehead, Kentucky, began representing himself as a “PE” on his personal LinkedIn page in 2014 after successfully passing the NCEES Principles and Practice in engineering exam. However, Mr. Brockman had not completed an application to be licensed in Kentucky, which made the title of PE a misrepresentation and violation of KRS 322.020. Subsequent to the Board initiating an investigation, Mr. Brockman removed the PE title. In 2018, Mr. Brockman entered into an arrangement with Joshua Trent, of Morehead, Kentucky, to provide engineering design services without having an engineering license. To fulfill this arrangement, Mr. Brockman employed a licensed engineer to review his design work and provide certification on those designs; a violation of KRS 322.180 (16), which prohibits the certification of plans not prepared by that individual, or by someone under his or her direct supervisory control. Mr. Brockman’s actions violated KRS 322.010 and KRS 322.020. To resolve the Board’s investigation, Mr. Brockman entered into an Agreed Order of Settlement and Injunction with the Board in Franklin Circuit Court, which injunction enjoins him from engaging in the unlicensed practice of engineering in Kentucky. No penalty was assessed for the violations; however, the Injunction calls for a $1,000 fine and seven (7) days in jail for any future violations. The Agreed Injunction was entered into Franklin Circuit Court on April 8, 2020.

Subsequently, Mr. Brockman decided to complete his application for licensure as a professional engineer. Mr. Brockman had already completed all of the education, experience and examination requirements of licensure and understood that the Board could deny him a license for engaging in the unlicensed practice of engineering in violation of KRS 322.020. Mr. Brockman however wished to become a licensed professional engineer and conduct his future practice in conformance of KRS 322. In order to obtain an approval for his application for licensure, Mr. Brockman proposed a Consent Decree between himself and the Board. The agreement calls for him to receive a letter of reprimand, requires him to successfully complete the 60-hour Texas Tech Engineering Ethics course, and immediately places his license on a two-year probation during which time he will submit to a quarterly review of his engineering work. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on May 1, 2020, and approved his application for licensure.

JOSHUA TRENT

In 2019, the Board of Licensure learned that Joshua Trent of Morehead, Kentucky had offered engineering services without an engineering license or a firm permit. A subsequent investigation determined that on three projects in the Morehead area, Mr. Trent had offered engineering services and then obtained an EIT to do the design. The EIT subsequently hired a licensed engineer to review and certify those projects. Mr. Trent does not, nor has he ever had, an engineering license in Kentucky. The actions of Mr. Trent constituted violations of KRS 322, the unlicensed practice of engineering. To resolve the Board’s investigation. Mr. Trent entered into an Agreed Order of Settlement and Injunction with the Board in Franklin Circuit Court, which injunction enjoins him from engaging in the unlicensed practice of engineering in Kentucky. No penalty was assessed for the current violations, however, the Injunction calls for a $1,000 fine and seven (7) days in jail for any future violations. The Agreed Injunction was entered into Franklin Circuit Court on April 7, 2020.

MICHAEL PAUL BROCKMAN, EIT

Michael Paul Brockman, an engineer in training (EIT) from Morehead, Kentucky, began representing himself as a “PE” on his personal LinkedIn page in 2014 after successfully passing the NCEES Principles and Practice in engineering exam. However, Mr. Brockman had not completed an application to be licensed in Kentucky, which made the title of PE a misrepresentation and violation of KRS 322.020. Subsequent to the Board initiating an investigation, Mr. Brockman removed the PE title. In 2018, Mr. Brockman entered into an arrangement with Joshua Trent, of Morehead, Kentucky, to provide engineering design services without having an engineering license. To fulfill this arrangement, Mr. Brockman employed a licensed engineer to review his design work and provide certification on those designs; a violation of KRS 322.180 (16), which prohibits the certification of plans not prepared by that individual, or by someone under his or her direct supervisory control. Mr. Brockman’s actions violated KRS 322.010 and KRS 322.020. To resolve the Board’s investigation, Mr. Brockman entered into an Agreed Order of Settlement and Injunction with the Board in Franklin Circuit Court, which injunction enjoins him from engaging in the unlicensed practice of engineering in Kentucky until such a time as he becomes licensed. No penalty was assessed for the violations; however, the Injunction calls for a $1,000 fine and seven (7) days in jail for any future violations. The Agreed Injunction was entered into Franklin Circuit Court on April 8, 2020.
JASON CLAY MERRITT, PE

Jason Clay Merritt is a Kentucky licensed professional engineer from Lesage, West Virginia. Mr. Merritt reviewed and certified the engineering work of Michael Brockman for Joshua Trent on three individual projects. Michael Brockman was not an employee of Mr. Merritt, as that term is defined in the Code of Professional Practice and Conduct in 201 KAR 18:142. Mr. Merritt's actions constituted violations of KRS 322.180 (5) in that he aided and abetted a person not licensed to practice engineering in this state, and KRS 322.180 (16) in that he provided certification for any plan, specification, plat, report, or physical description not prepared by him or her or under his or her direct supervision. To resolve the Board's investigation into Mr. Merritt's violations, he agreed to enter into a Consent Decree with the Board wherein he acknowledged the violations and agreed to: (1) receive a letter of reprimand; (2) take and successfully complete the 60-hour Texas Tech Engineering Ethics course; and (3) have his Kentucky license placed on probation for two years during which time he will submit to quarterly review of his Kentucky engineering work. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on May 1, 2020.

TOMMY J. DANIEL, PLS

In 2019, the Board of Licensure received a written complaint from a former client of Mr. Daniel. The complaint alleged, among other things, that Mr. Daniel failed to adequately inform the client about the proper procedures for obtaining planning commission approval for a new division of land fronting on a US Highway. The client proceeded with the project and later learned that approval for the division would not be granted until the Kentucky Department of Transportation approved an encroachment permit. A subsequent investigation by the Board found that Mr. Daniel did not know or understand the proper procedures for obtaining an encroachment permit from the Transportation Cabinet and failed to advise his client about the requirements. The investigation also determined his division plat contained numerous Standards of Practice (201 KAR 18:150) violations. An expanded review of Mr. Daniel’s recent work found a pattern of violations of the Standards of Practice. In totality, these violations and omissions by Mr. Daniel constituted incompetence in the practice of land surveying in violation of KRS 322.180 (2). During discussions with Mr. Daniel regarding proposed penalties for the violations, he decided voluntarily surrender his Kentucky land surveying license. This was presented to the Board of Licensure through a Consent Decree, which the board approved on July 31, 2020.

ALBON WADE MEADE

Albon Wade Meade was the Respondent in a previous Board disciplinary action regarding his failure to obtain the required Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours on time. Mr. Meade failed to meet his obligations of the previously negotiated Consent Decree with the Board regarding the overdue CPD hours by failing to complete an online Engineering Ethics course on time. Accordingly, Mr. Meade's engineering license was revoked on April 5, 2019, pursuant to the terms of that Consent Decree. Mr. Meade petitioned the Board to have his license reinstated, and on May 1, 2020, the Board considered his reinstatement application but deferred any final action until its next regularly scheduled meeting. In hopes of gaining approval of his reinstatement application, Mr. Meade proposed another Consent Decree between himself and the Board, which acknowledges his past failures to comply with obligations of licensure as a professional engineer in the Kentucky, and offers as his assurance that his future conduct as a professional engineer in Kentucky will not be a repeat of his past actions and omissions. In addition, the Consent Decree imposes two automatic audits of Mr. Meade's CPD hours to demonstrate compliance with the CPD regulation, 201 KAR 18:196, in 2022 and 2024. It also requires him to use the free NCEES CPC Tracking service, and requires that he not fail a CPD audit. The Board of Licensure accepted the Consent Decree on July 31, 2020.
LOFTUS ENGINEERING, INCORPORATED

Loftus Engineering, Incorporated is an Indiana corporation that held a Kentucky engineering permit with the Board since April of 2008. That permit expired on December 31, 2016, and was not renewed due to either oversight or neglect. The corporation continued to offer engineering services to the public in Kentucky after the permit expired, in violation of KRS 322.060. When the Board became aware of the continued practice of engineering on the expired permit, Board staff entered into discussions with Loftus. To resolve the violation, Loftus Engineering, Incorporated entered into a Consent Decree with the Board wherein it acknowledged the violation and agreed to: (1) pay a $1,000 fine; and (2) file a qualifying application for reinstatement of its Business Entity Permit. The Board of Licensure approved the Consent Decree on July 31, 2020.

KAREN S. LOFTUS, PE

Karen Loftus is an engineer residing in Indiana and the president of Loftus Engineering, Incorporated. Ms. Loftus has been licensed in Kentucky as a professional engineer since April of 2008. Her individual Kentucky license expired on June 30, 2018, and her failure to renew appears to have been due to oversight or neglect. Ms. Loftus continued to offer engineering services to the public, in Kentucky, after her license expired, in violation of KRS 322.020. When the Board became aware of the continued practice of engineering on the expired license, Board staff entered into discussion with Ms. Loftus. To resolve the violation, Karen Loftus entered into a Consent Decree with the Board wherein she acknowledged the violation and agreed to: (1) pay a fine of $1,000; (2) receive a letter of reprimand; and (3) file a qualifying application for reinstatement of her Kentucky license. The Board of Licensure approved the Consent Decree on July 31, 2020.

Calendar Events 2020

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Terracon is an employee-owned consulting engineering firm providing environmental, facilities, geotechnical, and materials services. We offer clients across the Commonwealth practical, cost-effective solutions from our Lexington, Louisville, and Cincinnati offices. By anticipating project requirements and adapting to challenges, we make it easy for you to work with us. Contact us for your next project.

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Special Inspections, Construction Observation & Materials Testing | Drilling/Exploration | Cone Penetration Testing
Torrence Williams knew what he wanted to be in fourth grade when a black astronaut came and visited his classroom. The astronaut told the class that math and science were the way forward.

“He’s the one that made me think, ‘Ah yeah, math and science, I can do it,” Williams said. “He did it.’”

Williams is an industrial engineer who grew up in a low-income neighborhood of Louisville, Kentucky. He was raised by his grandmother who’s highest salary never exceeded 27,000 dollars a year.

As a child, Williams always had a knack for math and science. He actually got the opportunity to test into an advanced program in fourth grade, which allowed him to switch schools from a rural, mostly black school to a mostly white school for the advanced program.

Williams said that was the switch that really changed his trajectory in life.

Williams went to duPont Manual High School in Louisville, a magnet school known for its Math Science Technology Program and meant to prepare students for college. He went on to pursue engineering at the University of Louisville and graduated in 2011. He said he remembers very often being one of only two or three people of color in his engineering classes.

“My presentation is huge,” Williams said. “A lot of the reason why I talk the way that I talk and maybe dress the way that I dress and have some of the influences that I have and things like that is ever since my curriculum changed in the fourth grade into an advanced program, I’ve been surrounded by mostly white people.”

Although the neighborhood he grew up in was not that way, his school was.

“And the reason for that is there aren’t a lot of opportunities or resources for people of color to have the same achievements as their white counterparts,” Williams said.

According to the National Science Foundation, 4% of black students earned a degree in engineering, compared to the 59% of degrees awarded to white students in 2016.

“A majority of the people of color that go into engineering end up dropping out after that first semester because they’re not prepared or don’t have enough resources or aren’t encouraged to stick around because they see that there aren’t people around that look like them,” Williams said.

In 2016, 11% of people of color made up the total science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce, with only 5% employed in the engineering field, according to the Pew Research Center.

“The more educated you are the better decisions that you will make in life,” Williams said. “A lot of these kids don’t have the correct influences that they need so they end up just getting sucked into criminal activity in neighborhoods and
whatever else because they just seek mentorship.”

Williams said there are very few completely black spaces that he’s in, which can’t be said for white people. And a lot of times when he’s in these spaces, Williams becomes a representative for both his company and the black community.

However, one place Williams and so many others have been able to find comfort in is on a college campus within an organization called the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), an organization aimed at increasing the number of black engineers who excel academically, professionally and impact the community at large.

“There’s just so much power in knowing that you can finally exhale,” Williams said. “And let that facade that you let up, down, and you can finally be yourself, and laugh, and do whatever else, and you can do it in a space of people that look like you.”

For University of Kentucky students, K’Lynn King and Alston Sickles, this feeling of relief is mutual.

“(NSBE) just kind of opened doors for me,” Sickles said, who is a senior majoring in civil engineering. “It’s put me in positions where not only do I have a support system like myself here at the University of Kentucky while I’m away from home, but I have a group of black engineers like myself who are going through the same thing and all have similar throes.”

Sickles said coming into college, his expectations were that he was going to have to work harder than the other students to prove he deserved to be there. And now feels driven to help other kids just like himself understand that they are capable and deserving.

“I want to let people like myself know, especially younger children and especially black kids, that they can secure jobs like this and that there is this way,” he said.

The STEM field feels isolating to K’Lynn King, for two reasons: being black and female.

King is from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and is a senior at UK majoring in chemical engineering. She joined NSBE the second semester of her freshman year and became the president of the organization in 2019. She said she wouldn’t be who she is today without NSBE.

“I did not feel the most comfortable at UK,” King said. “I didn’t always feel like I belonged there. But once finding NSBE, I felt like I had a home. I felt like I had a purpose.”

Because of NSBE and the opportunities the organization has afforded her, she has secured internships with international companies like Boeing and won national awards for her academic and professional achievements.

“There’s been various times where I’ve wanted to drop my major or I didn’t think I could do it,” King said. “But I feel like I’m fighting for a bigger thing, especially now.”

For additional diversity and inclusion resources, listen to Torrence Williams’ Let’s Get Uncomfortable podcast discussing subjects like race and class from various perspectives. Listen at http://letsgetuncomfortable.buzzsprout.com/.
George M. Binder College Scholarship
Auburn Mattingly

“...her real motivation to be an engineer is “to make an impact on the lives of others.”

Each year, NSPE-KY awards the George M. Binder College Scholarship to a full-time Kentucky engineering student who has made a significant contribution to the engineering profession, while maintaining a high-level grade point average and active extracurricular involvement.

This year’s winner is University of Kentucky senior Auburn Mattingly. The Hustonville, KY native is majoring in civil engineering and is on track to graduate this coming May.

Auburn says that, while she loves math and science and figuring out solutions to complex problems, her real motivation to be an engineer is “to make an impact on the lives of others.”

We celebrate Auburn’s success in that endeavor and congratulate her on being this year’s winner of the George M. Binder College Scholarship for NSPE-KY.

With a passion for helping others, Mattingly was drawn to the field of engineering. Her passion has been put to work through active civic involvement, volunteer roles and various employment opportunities while at UK. From serving as a member of the Dean’s Advisory Council for the College of Engineering, to participating as a speaker and mentor to middle and high school students, to working as an engineering intern, to serving as children’s director at her church—helping and serving others is what it is all about for Auburn.
IN MEMORIAM

The Kentucky Engineering Center and NSPE-KY note the passage of four valuable members of the engineering community in Kentucky. Our membership sends our thoughts and prayers to each of the families and friends affected by these four losses. Please take a moment and read through each obituary on the following pages in celebration of each of their lives and their contributions to the industry and beyond.
Calvin Grayson, 95, former Kentucky Transportation Secretary, passed away peacefully at his home on July 4, 2020. Born September 25, 1924, in Woodford County, he was the only child of the late Birchard Garr and Mary Beckham Hellard Grayson. He was a lifelong resident of Lexington and a graduate Lafayette High School. He attended the University of Kentucky from 1941 to 1943, when he withdrew to enter the armed forces. A purple heart recipient, Calvin was wounded at Okinawa and hospitalized for 16 months. He returned to UK in 1946 and earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1949.

Calvin began his career in transportation with the Kentucky Department of Highways and remained with the department and its successor, the Department of Transportation, for 30 years. In 1977, he was named Commissioner of Highways and Secretary of the Department of Transportation. He was the first career professional engineer to ever hold these positions. While Secretary he established the Kentucky Transportation Center at the University of Kentucky and served as its director from 1983-2004, the capstone to his legacy in the transportation world. His achievements in the field of engineering and beyond are many.

Calvin was married for 61 years to the late Virginia (Ginny) Davidson Grayson, the love of his life. They have two daughters, Tanya Gay Grayson (deceased) and Jana Phillips Grayson. Two grandchildren, Kendra White Shumate and Trevor White, and one great grandchild, Cooper White. He loved God, family, life, and friends. His warm and contagious smile always warmed up any room he entered. One of his favorite quotes was “it is not our job to fix or judge people. It is our job to love people. The rest is in God’s hands.”

Joseph D. Cochran, 54, passed away in the early morning of Saturday, August 22, 2020. Joe was born in Danville, Kentucky to Larry and Mary (Fuell) Cochran on March 24, 1966. Joe was a civil engineer and obtained his degree from the University of Kentucky. Joe was an avid tennis player and loved hiking, cooking, watching movies and sports, and traveling with his wife.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Josefina Cochran; stepchildren, Jessica and Christopher King; mother, Mary Cochran; brother, Jeffrey (Anne) Cochran, and sister, Sarah Cochran. He was preceded in death by his father, Larry Cochran.
Tilford Ray (“Ted”) Richardson

Tilford Ray (“Ted”) Richardson, 80, died peacefully at home under hospice care, after an extended illness, on August 4, 2020.

Ted was born on January 21, 1940 to the late Tilford C. and Mabel (Kelly) Richardson. He is survived by his children Beth Richardson in Lakeside Park, John (Connie) Richardson in Independence and Kelly (George) Niceley in Union and his granddaughter Chelsea Fite. He is also survived by his long-time companion and partner, Brenda Seltman, plus countless other family, friends and colleagues in the tristate area.

Lyle Fredrick Wolf

Lyle Fredrick Wolf, 88, of Lexington, KY, passed away peacefully at his home on June 20, 2020.

Lyle was born in Trenton, NJ to Fred Henry and Celia Sophers Wolf on March 22, 1932. He grew up in Nashville, TN and attended West End High School, where he met his life-long love, the former Elaine Hayes Yarbrough. They were married on June 17, 1954 in Nashville. He graduated with a BS in Engineering from Vanderbilt University, where he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Soon after marrying, the newlyweds moved to Dallas, TX for his first job with Chance-Vaught Aircraft.

Lyle and Elaine returned to Lexington in 1956, where he worked for J. Stephen Watkins Engineers. In 1965, Lyle co-founded G. Reynolds Watkins Consulting Engineers (now GRW Engineers), where in 1967 he was named President. Over the ensuing 25 years, he built one of the most successful engineering firms in Kentucky. Lyle retired from GRW in 1992.

Along with many professional accolades, Lyle was also very active in civic and charitable organizations including Board Chairmanships for Hospice of the Bluegrass, The Lexington Hearing and Speech Center, the Lafayette Club, the Woodson Bend Condominium Owners Association, and the Island Association. He was a Founding Board Member of the Triangle Foundation, and served on boards for the Bank of Lexington, the Lexington Rotary Club, the Boy Scouts of America, and United Way of the Bluegrass. In 1989, Lyle was invited to join the Board of Trustees for then Midway College; a role he proudly filled for 30 years. He was honored in 2019 by now Midway University with the Legacy Award for his exemplary service to the school.

Ted graduated from Simon Kenton HS in 1958. At the University of Kentucky, he obtained his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1962 and his Masters of Science in Sanitary (Environmental) Engineering in 1963. He was elected to Tau Beta Pi, an Engineering Honor Society, Elected to Chi Epsilon, Civil Engineering Honor Society and later Served as President of that organization. In 2015, he was bestowed the Career Achievement Award from the University of Kentucky’s Department of Civil Engineering.

Ted founded the Cardinal Engineering Corporation, later adding Cardinal Laboratories and Purestream Industries. He has spent the last 30+ years dealing in commercial real estate with Stratford Development, Windsor Properties and other companies. He was a longtime member of the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission, the National Water Pollution Control Federation, and the National Society of Professional Engineers, serving on the national board of directors in 1969-70. Ted also served as a member of the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors from 1997 to 2001 and served as chairman in 2000. Among many others, his achievements include selection as Outstanding Young Engineer in Kentucky (1974), Outstanding Kentucky Engineer in Industry (1975), and Northern Kentucky Professional Engineer of the Year (1984).
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