

Winter
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21

KENTUCKY ENGINEER



**Congratulate 2021
Young Engineer of the Year
Stephanie Blain**

page 16

NSPE-KY

Kentucky ENGINEER
Volume 60



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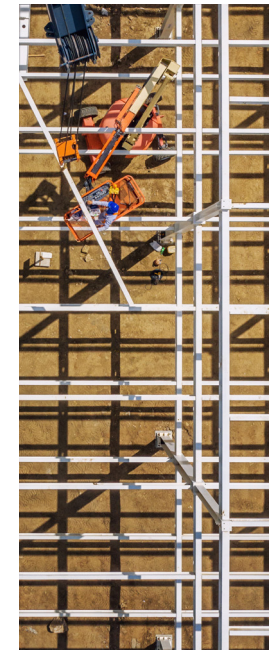


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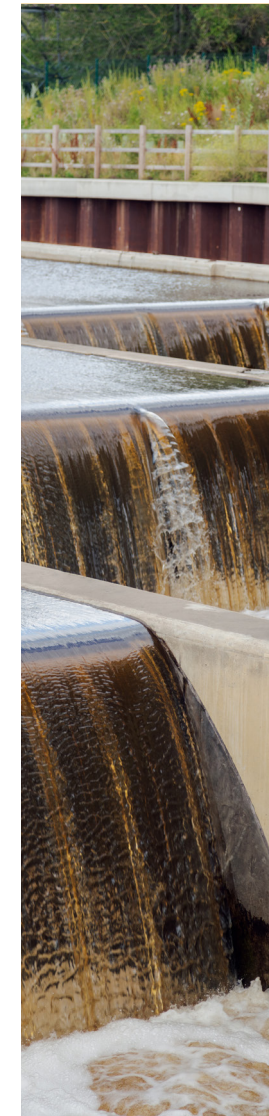


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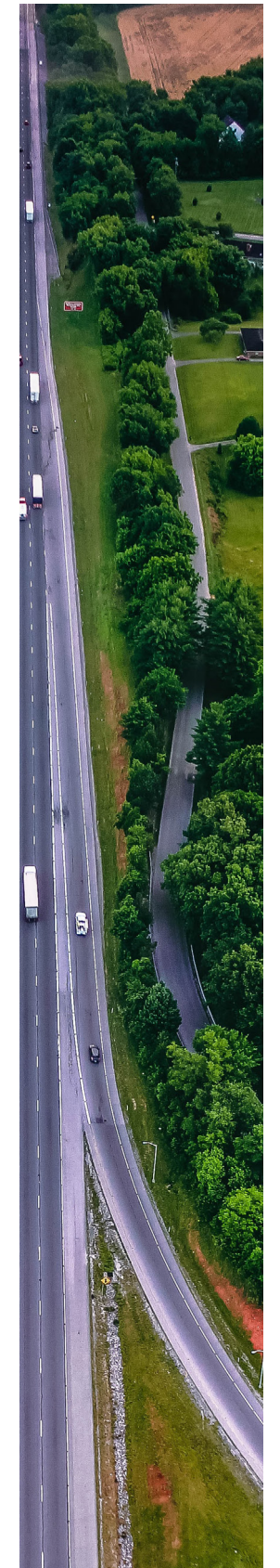


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Magazine design by Hayley Robb

President's Statement

Darin Hensley, PE, PLS, PMP

Greetings my fellow engineers! I trust that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and has started 2021 with the right foot forward.

Congratulations to Stephanie Blain, PE, LEED AP for being selected as the 2021 NSPE-KY Young Engineer of the Year! Please see the article on **page 16** for more details, I'm sure you will agree that Stephanie is an excellent representative of our profession. We wish her well as she moves on to the NSPE National competition.



ANNUAL CONVENTION

Please note that the **2021 Annual Convention has been scheduled for July 21-23, 2021**. The planning committee is well underway preparing for a fun-filled, educational convention in Lexington, KY.

21 July 21-23, 2021 | 2021 Annual Convention

MATHCOUNTS

The planning effort for the Kentucky Mathcounts program is in progress. National Mathcounts is leading the way by providing guidance for hosting the competition in a virtual setting. If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to Mathcounts Committee Chairman Jason Bricker for more information. A special note of thanks to our university partners, University of Louisville, University of Kentucky, and Western Kentucky University. The scholarship prizes provided by each schools' engineering program provide an amazing opportunity for our brightest Mathletes!

NSPE UPDATE

NSPE has announced a new Executive Director. **Monika Schulz** has been named CEO and will begin her tenure with NSPE on February 15th. Welcome Monika!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As is typical during this time of the year, the General Assembly is in session. The Rotunda Group provides support year round by helping both NSPE-KY and ACEC-KY track important legislation. We always encourage our membership to be actively involved with your legislative representatives. If you need assistance or would like to have some talking points, feel free to reach out to our Executive Director Russ Romine. As usual, we will send out an all-call message if any legislation appears to threaten our profession.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT *Champion – Lora Boller*

- ▶ Mentoring, between all parties but particularly between chapter and state officers
- ▶ Provide guidance on the transfer of leadership duties in order to aid the development of the next generation of officers (Priority goal)
- ▶ Continued collaboration with NSPE-KY and other state societies to further develop our leadership



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT *Champion – Wes Sydnor*

- ▶ Expand our virtual offerings of continuing education, investigate the development of a library of on-demand training resources
- ▶ Investigate use of the training center computers as host computers for remote virtual training seminars
- ▶ Reinvigorate the Leadership PE program, host an all deans retreat to coordinate and plan the next generation of LPE (Priority goal)



NEXT GENERATION PLANNING *Champion – Neal Crawford*

- ▶ Investigate the development of a virtual chapter, investigate the consolidation or redistricting of our existing chapters (Priority goal)
- ▶ Expand and diversify our membership, grow our non-civil engineering base (#1 goal – Champion – Entire NSPE-KY membership)
- ▶ Enhance our relationship with students (at all levels) to develop the next generation of NSPE-KY leadership through mentorship, membership, and scholarship

NSPE-KY UPDATE

Instead of setting a short term, annual goal for our organization, I took the initiative to pull together the next three projected presidents and make long term goals. Lora Boller, Wes Sydnor, Neal Crawford, and I developed the following goals and initially presented them to the Board of Directors at the September board meeting. Prior to the December board meeting, we gathered again to rank each goal and assign champions in order to lead and facilitate the successful completion of these goals. The board fully supports our priority ranking and we look forward to working with the membership to improve NSPE-KY for years to come.

CONCLUSION

As you can see, we have listed our entire membership as champion for our most important goal. We need your help in recruiting and diversifying our membership.

Why are you a member of NSPE-KY, and what can you do to help expand our membership?

Consider this question as well as others. We welcome your feedback. If you have specific ideas please reach out to our Membership Chairman Sean Craig.

In conclusion, THANK YOU once again for your continued support of NSPE-KY. I continue to be amazed at how well our industry has adapted to the pandemic in order to serve the needs of the general public. It is truly an honor to work alongside you.

As always, I am grateful for the loving support of my family and the support of my employer Mason & Hanger. I wouldn't be able to serve as your President without them backing me up.

Executive Director's Statement

Russ Romine

I recently had the opportunity to clean out cabinets, straighten closets and organize storage space at the Kentucky Engineering Center (KEC). Taking advantage of the relative calm between Christmas and New Year's, it was a great time to put on old work clothes and stir up some dust. Once I had finished it was a great feeling, and I came away with a sense of accomplishment. But I also came away with something else — a greater appreciation for those who have given so much for the betterment of engineers, this organization, and even this physical building we call home.

Taking time to sift through old papers and dated binders was coupled with time spent sorting through photos and annual reports from years gone by. Yes, there was plenty of old junk that found its way to the recycle bin or the dumpster, but I also discovered a few treasures that hadn't seen the light of day in decades.

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS
Since coming back to the KEC, I've had the chance to reconnect with many people who have been instrumental in the success of the organizations and programs housed here. People like Dave Servis, former KSPE President and current KEF Board member. Every time I talk with Dave, I am reminded of the passion he has for KSPE and programs like MATHCOUNTS. After finding the old photo below during my cleaning, I reached out to Dave to get the backstory. I recognized all but one of the gentlemen in the picture, and Dave told me who he was and gave me the rest of the story behind the picture.

Each phone call or email with Dave provides a treasure trove of information, history and link to the past goings-on at the KEC. I am somewhat of a history buff, so hearing stories about the issues, challenges and triumphs that KSPE has faced over the years gives me a greater appreciation for where we are today.

Six out of seven men pictured in this photo served as president of KSPE. Not only did they provide steady leadership during their tenure, but they also gave their time, talent and financial resources to make sure the organization and programs of the KEC had a solid foundation upon which to grow. It's through their investment that we remain today. It is through the continued investment of our current leadership team that we build for tomorrow.

I want to personally thank those who have come before us and given so much to KSPE and the KEC. We have a solid foundation because of your commitment, dedication and investment. I look forward to the great things that lie ahead!

2021 YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR – STEPHANIE BLAIN
I want to extend my congratulations to Stephanie Blaine, PE for being named this year's NSPE-KY Young Engineer of the Year. Stephanie works for Palmer Engineering and has served NSPE-KY at the chapter and state level for several years. We are proud to have her represent Kentucky in the 2021 NSPE Young Engineer of the Year national competition.

Get to know Stephanie better as you read the feature article in this edition of Kentucky ENGINEER.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – ANNUAL CONVENTION DATE SET
NSPE-KY President-Elect Lora Boller and the 2021 Annual Convention Committee are hard at work planning this year's event. As originally planned last year, the convention will be held at the Lexington Griffin Gate Marriott Resort & Spa beginning **Wednesday, July 21 through Friday, July 23.** The Marriott Griffin Gate has recently undergone a major renovation that included a total update to the convention space, plus a remodel of every guest room in the hotel. Lora, Bill Bell and I recently



(Left to right):
“Davy Drill and the Power Tools:”
Dave Servis, Clyde Baldwin, Bill Mossbarger, George Woolwine, Don Armour, Art Curtis, Mike Ritchie.
Photo credit: George Binder

received a tour and first glimpse of the makeover and we are excited for you to experience the new Marriott Griffin Gate and to bring the convention back to Lexington!

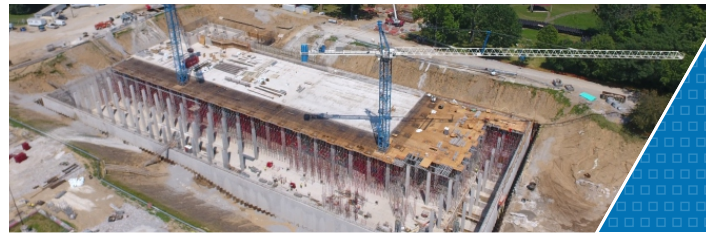
By now, you should have received our initial call for topics through an email blast. Please share your ideas with Bill Bell (bill@kyengcenter.org) by Friday, March 19. Our next edition of the Kentucky ENGINEER, the spring issue, will include the final agenda for this summer's convention. When the convention arrives, it will be the first in-person gathering in over two years for KSPE, and we are excited for the chance to gather in person once again!

KSPE GEORGE M. BINDER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP
Each year, NSPE-KY awards a \$2,500 scholarship to a full-time Kentucky college engineering student who has made a significant contribution to the engineering profession, while maintaining a high-level grade point average and active extracurricular involvement. The call for applications for the 2021 George M. Binder College Scholarship is ongoing and has an April 1st due date. If you know an engineering student at Western Kentucky University, the University of Louisville, or the University of Kentucky, please share this information and opportunity with them. For additional information and a link to the application, please [click here](#).

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UNDERWAY
The 2021 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly started with a flurry of activity on Tuesday, January 5th. The first week of the session included a rare Saturday legislative day that saw final passage of six bills, all priorities of the Republican led House and Senate. Many of the priority bills passed in the first week put in place limits on the governor's executive powers during an emergency.

Part II of the 2021 Session began on February 2, the sixth legislative day of the session. This 30-day “short session” is currently scheduled to adjourn sine die on March 30. The Legislative Committee, led by Chairman Wayne Karem, will continue to monitor the actions and activities of both chambers during the session, and we will provide regular updates to KSPE members. If you are not on the legislative update email distribution list, please contact Edward Warren by calling the Kentucky Engineering Center at (502) 695-5680, or through email at edward@kyengcenter.org.

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Kentucky Route 9, Newport, KY: Photo & design courtesy of Gresham Smith.

New Member Spotlight

NSPE-KY is dedicated to promoting the ethical, competent and licensed practice of engineering while enhancing the professional, social and economic well-being of both returning and new members of the organization. Please welcome Hardin County Engineer Charlie Allen to NSPE-KY.

Q&A

SIX QUESTIONS WITH CHARLIE ALLEN

1 Why engineering?

I was raised on a farm and I have always loved the outdoors. My dad was a carpenter, plumber, electrician, HVAC guy, mechanic, etc. You name it and he could do it. I originally thought that I wanted to become a math teacher, but my freshman year of college a friend asked me if I had ever considered Civil Engineering. To be honest, I didn't even know what a Civil Engineer did or how they could impact the world. As I began to study this field, I realized that all the things my dad taught me regarding work ethic, solving problems, managing projects, taking care of the land and so much more were qualities that fit perfectly in the Civil Engineering world. I knew that I could take my God given talents and apply them to something that truly could make an impact on other people's lives.

2 How did you get to the position you're in now?

My career with KYTC opened the door to numerous opportunities throughout my 25 years in the industry. I worked with contractors, developers, consultants, suppliers, local and state officials and these experiences and relationships played a major role getting me to my current position.



- Green County, Kentucky
- Charlie, Kim, BayLee & Carter
- UK Football & Basketball fans
- Cincinnati Reds fan

3 What's your favorite part about your job?

I hope that I can help people find a solution to whatever it is they are trying to accomplish without undue burden. I truly love interacting with people and for me that has always been the best part of my job.

4 Are there any organizations you're actively involved in outside of NSPE-KY?

I am a year-round volunteer with Samaritan's Purse serving as the Shoebox Drop-Off Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child in Green County. I also serve in the Children and Youth ministries at our church and many of the kids we serve have real struggles and burdens that are hard to imagine. The church is focused on providing for their basic needs such as food and clothes but more importantly, they share the Love of God with each one.



5 Why did you join NSPE-KY?

My new role is quite different than anything I have done in my career. I have only been on the job a few weeks, but it appears that Stormwater Management is going to take the bulk of my time. I am hoping that I can make some connections within NSPE-KY who can share knowledge, ideas and encouragement as I transition into this new and exciting world.

6 Best engineering memory you have?

I really enjoyed the early days of my engineering career, whether it be all night bridge deck pours, 24 hour paving on I-65, exploring quarry mining operations or learning about concrete and asphalt plants. Those were the best days of my career.

Green County: Home of the "Slaw burger, fries and a bottle of Ski"



Originally made popular by the Kentucky Headhunters, "Dumas Walker" is a song that was released in 1990. Reaching No. 15 on the County Charts, the song was written by the band's five band members.

The song refers to purchasing a "slaw burger, fries and a bottle of Ski" at a local restaurant in Greensburg, Kentucky (Green County), where Allen and his family reside. Allen said others might say he is addicted to Ski.

"But so is everyone else in Green County," Allen said.

FUN FACTS

- Q:** Favorite restaurant of all time?
A: The Apple Barn
- Q:** Superpower of choice and why?
A: I would love to fly so I could get to work faster but I am afraid of heights.
- Q:** Favorite movie?
A: A Wonderful Life
- Q:** If you could have dinner with 3 people dead or alive, who would they be?
A: Billy Graham, Dave Ramsey and Dolly Parton

Board of Licensure Report

James Ed Manning, Executive Director

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING UPDATE

For several years now NCEES has been converting all licensing exams from a paper and pencil format to a computer-based format.

For surveyors, both of the national surveying exams, the FS and the PS have been converted to the computer-based format. With the elimination of the state specific surveying exam in late 2018, the entire exam process for land surveyors is now completely computer-based and available year-round.

For engineers, we are still in a period of transition, but that transition has been accelerated by NCEES in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of Feb. 1, the following engineering exams are computer-based and offered year-round:

- ▶ FE (all disciplines)
- ▶ PE Chemical
- ▶ PE Environmental
- ▶ PE Mechanical (all disciplines)
- ▶ PE Electrical and Computer: Power

As of Feb. 1, the following engineering exams are computer-based, but due to the small examinee populations, are offered only once each year:

- ▶ PE Nuclear
- ▶ PE Petroleum
- ▶ PE Fire Protection
- ▶ PE Industrial and Systems
- ▶ PE Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- ▶ PE Electrical and Computer: Computer Engineering
- ▶ PE Electrical and Computer: Electronics, Controls and Communications
- ▶ PE Mining and Mineral Processing

All other exams are scheduled to be converted to computer-based format by the end of 2022 with the exception of Structural Engineering which is scheduled for 2024.

You can find up-to-date information on the conversion to computer-based testing [here](#).

LATE FIRM RENEWALS – REMINDER

All Firm Permits (also known as Business Entity Permits) expire on December 31 of each year unless they are renewed.

Any firm that missed the deadline may still renew its permit online for up to a year from the date of expiration. Access the online renewal system [here](#).

Be sure to select the “Online Firm Renewal” option. Renewal takes only a few minutes and you can pay the renewal fee with a credit card. The system will automatically calculate a 10% per month late renewal penalty.

A word of caution; however, the late renewal provision notwithstanding, the offering or providing of professional services through a firm having an expired permit is prohibited and can result in disciplinary action.

You can check the license/permit status of any person/firm using our [online searchable roster](#). If after checking the roster you are still uncertain as to the status of an individual or firm, contact our office for assistance.

On the next page is a list of those firms for which a firm permit expired at the end of 2020. It should be noted that some firms may have decided not to renew because they no longer offer engineering or surveying services in Kentucky.

AARCO Surveying, Incorporated	Forte Engineering LLC	North Alabama Fabricating Company, Inc.
Abacus Engineering & Land Surveying, In	Fosdick & Hilmer, Incorporated	Orbital Engineering, Inc
ABNA Engineering Inc	Greenscape Pump Services, Inc.	Orion Engineering, PC
ADG Design, LLC	Hahn Engineering, Inc.	Ozark Civil Engineering Inc.
Advanced Creative Industries, LLC	HCI Engineering	Poggemeyer Design Group Inc
Advani Engineering, Inc.	Highland Associates, Ltd. Architecture Engi	Premier Design Group, LLC
AECOM USA, Inc.	Highland Engineering PC	Process Automation & Simulation Services
All Environmental, Inc.	Hill Phoenix, Inc.	Project Integration, Inc.
AMEC Foster Wheeler E&C Services, Inc.	Holaday-Parks Fabricators, Inc.	Pure Power Engineering, Inc.
Anchor Engineering, Inc.	Howard Engineering & Construction, Inc,	Pure Technologies U.S. Inc.
Applied Foundation Testing, Inc.	I A Lewin, PE and Associates	Purtle + Associates, L.C.
APX Engineering Group, LLC	IBC Engineering Services, Inc.	QPS Engineering, LLC
Arc Design Resources, Inc.	Infinigy Engineering, PLLC	Quanta Telecommunication Services, LLC
Architectural Wall Consulting and Engin	J. A. Doecker Associates, Inc	Ragan-Smith Associates, Inc.
Audubon Field Solutions, LLC	JADE Consulting, LLC	Saegesser Engineering, Inc.
Avalon Land Surveying LLC	Jax Refrigeration, Inc.	SBE, LLC
Bakke Kopp Ballou & McFarlin, Inc.	JD Land Surveying, Inc.	Seattle Structural
Bechtel Infrastructure and Power Corpor	JGD Associates, Inc.	Segars Engineering
Big R Manufacturing, LLC	Jordan & Skala Engineers, Incorporated	Shremshock Engineering, Inc.
Blankenbeker & Son Land Surveyors Inc.,	KAI Engineering, LLC	SIGMA Environmental, LLC
Blum Consulting Engineers, Inc.	KDH Consulting Engineers, Inc	SITECH Mid-South LLC
Borton, LC	Keal & Associates,Inc	Slessor Engineering Inc.
Brandstetter Carroll, Inc.	Kerry P. Magan, Consulting Engineers, PLC	SoCore Engineering LLC
Brookside Engineering, PLLC	Knoth Surveying and Design, LLC	Southport Engineering Associates, PC
C B & M Surveys Inc.	Leachate Management Specialists LLC	SpecPro Environmental Services, L.L.C.
Canon Engineering, LLC	Leidos Consulting Engineers, Inc.	SSI Consulting, LLC
CB&I LLC	Leidos Engineering, LLC	Stahl Sheaffer Engineering, LLC
CDI Corporation	Livingston Engineering, LLC	Structure Sight LLC
CEG Solutions, LLC	Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc	SUKUP STEEL STRUCTURES LLC
Clearpoint Consulting Engineers, P.A.	Lutz, Daily & Brian, LLC	Summey Engineering Associates, PLLC
CMTA, Inc.	MacIntosh Engineering, P.A.	T.H.E. Engineers, Inc.
Coal Mining Engineering Services LLC	Malcolm Endicott and Associates	TAP Structural Solutions, LLC
Cornerstone Environmental Group, LLC	MALLIA ENGINEERING COMPANY	Tarr Group
Dabney Engineering and Land Surveying	Marine Development, Inc.	TGC Engineering, LLC
Dialectic, Inc.	Matthew Clark Surveyors, LLC	The Design Collaborative
Dumack Engineering, P.C.	McMullen Engineering Co., Inc.	TOWER CONSULTANTS INC.
E & E Engineering and Associates, LLC	Metric Engineering, Inc.	TriAD Environmental Consultants, Inc.
E. L. Robinson Engineering Co.	Metro GeoSpatial, LLC	Underwater Engineering Services, Inc.
E2M Engineering	Michael A. Beach & Associates, LLC	United Consulting
Earth Exploration, Incorporated	Midwest Engineering, Inc.	Universal Industrial Gases, Inc.
Ecology & Environment, Inc.	Mission 1 Engineering P.C.	URS CORPORATION SOUTHERN
Engineering Associates, LLC	MJM Architects, LLC	W. R. Coles and Associates
Engineering Consultants, Inc.	MJS Consultants, LLC	Wade Trim, Inc.
Engineers-Architects, P.C.	Morrow Engineering, Inc.	Weatherford and Associates, LLC
FCG Associates, LLC	Move the Peak, LLC	West Virginia Electric Industries
Five Star Engineering, LLC	MPSL Group	Woodard & Curran, Inc
Fluhrer Reed, PA	Nasah Engineering Consultation and Servi	Yarger Engineering, Inc.
Forensic Analysis & Engineering Corpor	Natural Energy Engineering Services, PLLC	

Enforcement Actions Summary

October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020
Kyle Elliott, Director of Enforcement

GLENN S. TURNER, PE, PLS

In late 2018, the Board of Licensure received a written complaint from a landowner in Hardin County, KY. The landowner had observed a person removing one of his property boundary markers, and resetting it 10-15 feet into his property. He approached the individual, and after a verbal exchange, the person disclosed that he was employed by Glenn Turner, of New Banks, Inc., dba Turner Engineering, of Elizabethtown, KY. An investigation found that Mr. Turner: failed to adequately supervise this employee in recovering monuments from an earlier Turner survey; failed to provide notice of entry onto the complainant’s land; failed to obtain written permission to destroy, injure, damage, or move anything on the complainant’s land; and violated the land surveying Standards of Practice when the employee removed and reset an existing record monument. Those failures violated KAR 18:142, Section 8 (6), KRS 322.470 (2) and (3), and 201 KAR 18:150, Section 9 (8), respectively. To resolve these violations, Glenn Turner entered into a Consent Decree with the Board of Licensure wherein he acknowledged the violations and agreed to: (1) receive a written reprimand; (2) pay an administrative fine of \$2,000; and (3) have both his engineering and land surveying licenses placed on probation for 2 years with quarterly project reviews. The Board of Licensure approved this Consent Decree on January 22, 2021.

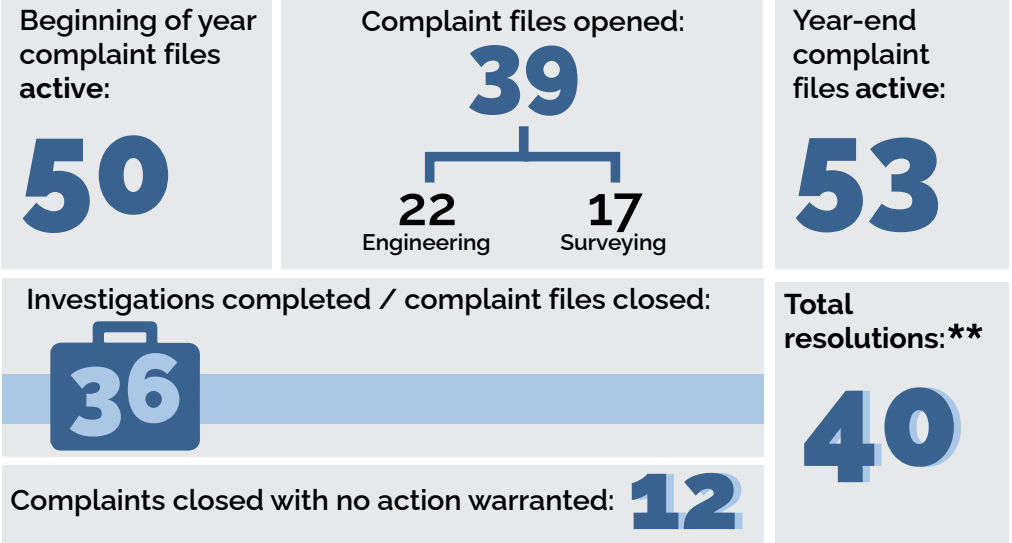
STEVEN R. BROWN, PLS

In late 2019, the Board received a telephone call from a private citizen inquiring about an iron pin with cap that he had recently discovered on his property. The cap had an identification on it of “Brown, PLS #3476”, which is Steven Brown’s license number. Mr. Brown’s license had expired on June 30, 2017 and had not been renewed or reinstated. A brief investigation by the Board found that Mr. Brown was unaware his license had expired, and that he had failed to take the required continuing professional development courses during the time when his license was expired. Mr. Brown admitted to having performed seven different surveys while his license was expired. These constitute violations of KRS 322.020 and 201 KAR 18:192. During the investigation, Mr. Brown decided he wanted to have his land surveying license reinstated. A Consent Decree was proposed to the Board of Licensure that would allow Mr. Brown to reinstate his license, if he acknowledged the violations and agreed to the following penalties: (1) receive a letter of reprimand; (2) pay an administrative fine of \$1,000; (3) make an application and pay the application fee for reinstatement of his license; and (4) provide proof of successfully completing 32 professional development hours of continuing professional development. The Board accepted this Consent Decree on January 22, 2021.

MICHAEL ZIMMER

Michael Zimmer is licensed as a professional engineer in the state of Ohio, and has never been licensed in Kentucky. In December of 2019, Mr. Zimmer applied for his Kentucky license and included experience information in his NCEES Record that described engineering work he had performed in Kentucky. An investigation found that Michael Zimmer had performed engineering services for at least three different projects in Kentucky and submitted reports to Kentucky’s Division of Air Quality for approval. This work performed prior to becoming licensed as a professional engineer in Kentucky violated KRS 322.020. Mr. Zimmer agreed to the following penalties for his violations: (1) receive a letter of reprimand; (2) take and successfully complete the Texas Tech 60-hour Engineering Ethics course; and (3) have his Kentucky professional engineering license placed on a two-year probation with quarterly project reviews. The Board accepted the Consent Decree on January 22, 2021.

Enforcement Statistics 2020



* Includes licensees who failed to comply with CPD requirements and elected to place their license on retired/inactive status.

** Total resolutions does not match total cases closed because some cases involved more than one resolution (e.g. if a case had multiple respondents).



APRIL			
08	Committee meetings Virtual		
09	Board meeting Virtual		
15-17	NCEES Southern Zone Meeting Virtual		
22	PE, SE Vertical Exams @ Louisville, KY		
23	SE Lateral Exam @ Louisville, KY		
JULY			
29	Committee meetings Virtual		
30	Board meeting Virtual		
		AUGUST	
		15-17	NCEES Annual Meeting @ New Orleans, LA
		OCTOBER	
		22	PE, SE Vertical Exams @ Louisville, KY
		23	SE Lateral Exam @ Louisville, KY
		28	Committee meetings Virtual
		29	Board meeting Virtual

For up to date information on the NCEES schedule for both paper-based and computer-based exams, visit this [link](#).

Calendar
Events



Stephanie Blain is named 2021 Young Engineer of the Year. Stephanie is a project manager at Palmer Engineering in Lexington, Kentucky. Pictured above is her husband, Matt Blain; her son, Isaac (7); and her two daughters, Emery (4) and Annabelle (2).

Young Engineer of the Year

Stephanie Blain

Story by Hayley Robb

Her day starts at 5 a.m. cramming as much work in as she can before getting the kids ready at 9. Food, virtual school and responding to emails are sprinkled in between until naps at 1. Mom duties call until about 9 p.m. when she finally sits down to wrap things up at work.

That’s pretty much how remote work operated for Stephanie Blain, project manager and superwoman at Palmer Engineering and this year’s Young Engineer of the Year.

“I don’t know how she manages to get so much done every day but she makes every effort to provide what our children need while also progressing her career,” said Matt Blain, Stephanie’s husband who is also an engineer.

Stephanie works the extra hours to fit it all in, but it’s not just in her home life – it’s everything.

A NATURAL CALLING

Stephanie has been at Palmer Engineering in Lexington, Kentucky for 14 years and graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Kentucky with a degree in civil engineering. She’s involved in several professional organizations, committees and community groups and is providing innovative solutions to the stormwater, wetlands and stream industry.

Stephanie has worked on various roadway, site development, utility, and environmental engineering projects throughout her career. She is often involved in projects from the preliminary planning aspects through

construction completion. As a project manager, she has earned her clients’ trust, including Toyota with her work for the national plant.

For Stephanie, engineering was a natural calling and weaved into her life from a very young age.

“We spent a lot of time just sort of tinkering around with things, going on nature walks and exploring science and the environment,” Stephanie said.

It’s always been a part of her life much like civil engineering, she said. Stephanie chose civil engineering as a concentration because it related the most to her experiences growing up.

“My father is a commercial real estate broker, so we often made detours on family vacations or took weekend drives to check out pieces of property for development,” Stephanie said. “I overheard lots of conversations about ease of access and visibility.”

Stephanie said she probably had the most varied course electives in college, but it has overlapped in career as well, and allowed her to touch many different sectors. The variety is what keeps her engaged and interested, she said.

That variety is also what allowed her to find Palmer Engineering. After two summers on construction sites in college, Stephanie said she knew she wanted to experience something different. She sent her resume to the president of Palmer Engineering at the



(Above) Blain performs water quality sampling in Lower Howards Creek in Winchester, Kentucky. (Right) Blain's family loves to explore the outdoors, especially creeks and streams, she says.



time and started part-time the summer between her junior and senior year of college. She continued her work through the next year and never left.

THE FUTURE IS FEMALE

Stephanie is currently the only professional female engineer at Palmer Engineering and said her greatest professional achievement to date has been earning respect and trust as a woman in the male-dominated field.

“As a female in this industry, it is easy to feel separated and/or different a lot of the time,” Stephanie said.

She said it's especially intimidating to walk into meetings being the only female and youngest in the room.

“Over the years, I have learned to deal with that and learned that my opinion is still valuable and worth sharing,” Stephanie said.

A large part of Stephanie's growth came from mentors she looked up to. She joined a sorority in college dedicated to women in engineering that gave her a core group of people who understood her experiences and challenges.

“A couple of those women were especially inspiring to me because at some point, it's just like, ‘I don't think if I can have a career and have my personal aspirations,’ and they sort of encouraged me to not be scared and to just try to follow my dreams,” Stephanie said.

Palmer Engineering senior project manager Chris Mischel is another mentor that has influenced

Stephanie's career and growth. He said women like Stephanie are the reason the industry is changing and more women are filling management roles.

“I think it's important just to see someone like Stephanie do as well as she can,” Mischel said.

As a role model for young engineers, Stephanie has proven you can still be a successful civil engineer and a great mother, Matt said.

PAINT REBORN PROJECT

As an associate principal within Palmer Engineering, Stephanie serves as a guiding voice within the company when challenges and questions arise.

One of the most challenging projects Stephanie said she has been a part of to date was the Paint Reborn project with Toyota Motor Manufacturing in Georgetown, Kentucky. With over 600,000 square feet and an expedited schedule, keeping the rest of the plant open and operational required precise planning.

“Careful coordination between all design disciplines was critical and saved many construction headaches,” Stephanie said.

Although challenging, this is also her favorite project to date and one that has helped her grow into the engineer she is today. Mischel said through projects like these, Stephanie has grown into an engineer who does it all.

“I wouldn't know what to do if she wasn't around,” Mischel said. “She's become such an integral part of our group. It would be hard to imagine what it would be without her.”



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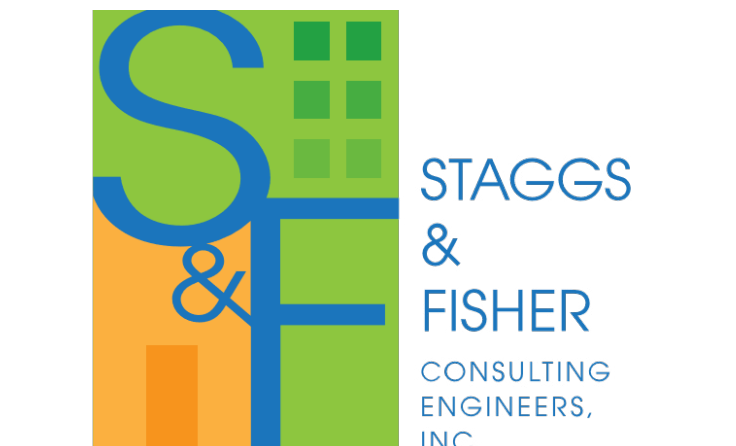
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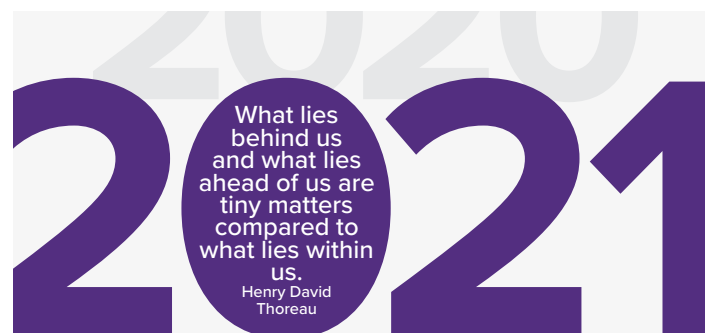
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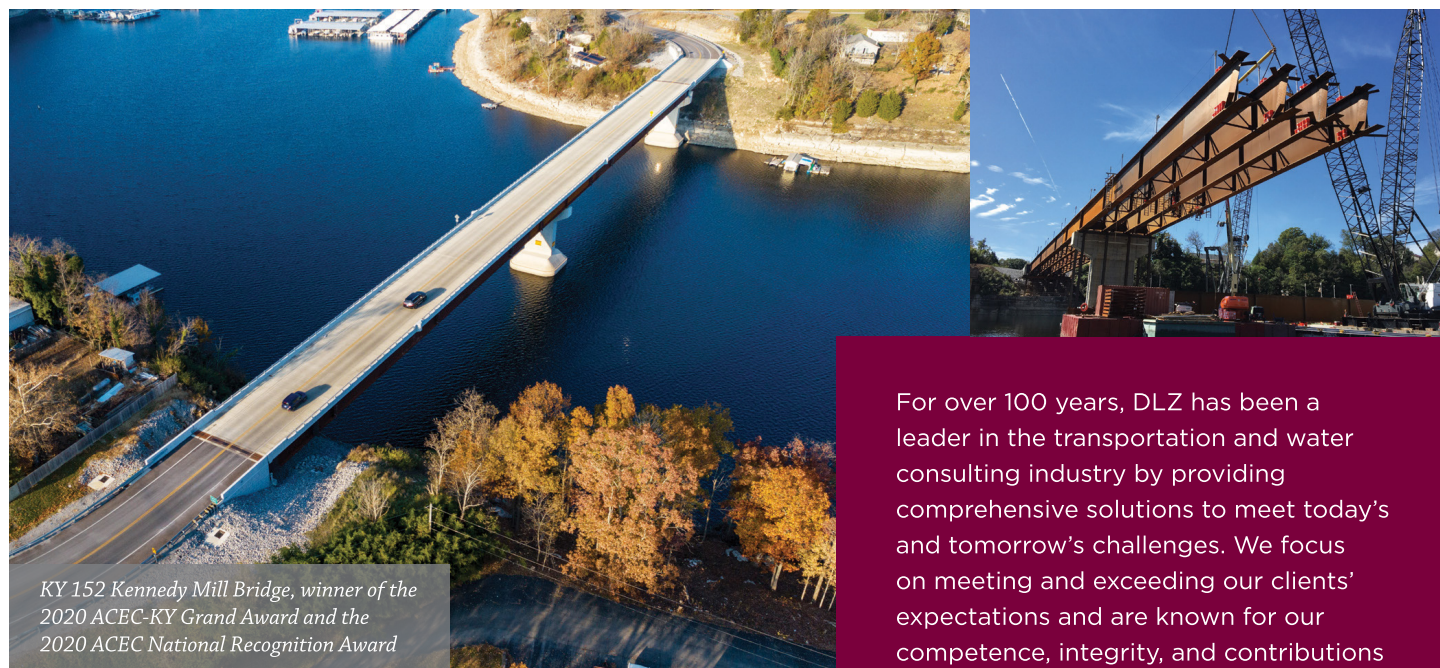


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In Memoriam

James Donald "Don" Walsh

James Donald Walsh died December 15, 2020 at the age of 84 years. He graduated from St. X High School, and Speed Engineering School, University of Louisville with a masters in Mechanical Engineering; a Navy veteran served on the aircraft carrier The USS Randolph, Member American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers, Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, past President of the Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, charter member of University Club of

Louisville, member of Hurstbourne Country Club for 32 years, retired from Walsh Engineering of which he was president and founder.

He was preceded in death by his parents Thomas and Emma Walsh, brothers Jack, Tom and Charles Kenneth Walsh and sister Naomi Anspach. He is survived by his wife Kathleen Mullaney Walsh, daughter Kelly Walsh Abell, granddaughter Brandy Abell and many loving nieces and nephews.

Professional Development

PRO TIP:

VIRTUAL WORKPLACE DO'S AND DON'TS

- 1

DO create a clear and organized space
Make sure your background is clear of any distracting objects or light. Balanced lighting is key for effective virtual meetings. Try opening a window or flipping your workspace to face outdoor light.
- 2

DON'T go into hermit mode
Try not to isolate yourself from others while working from home. It's easy to keep to yourself while being productive but making time for any kind of social interaction can aid your workflow.
- 3

DO set up office boundaries
Design your workspace to complement the demands of your job whether it's multiple screens or lots of notebook paper. And then make it a point to leave your work in that particular room or space to signal to your brain it's time to log off.
- 4

DON'T force yourself to work 9–5
Although finding a routine that works is important when working from home, it's important to be flexible to avoid burnout too. Find a balance and give yourself breaks to refresh your mind.
- 5

DO use time to brush up other skills
Working from home lacks the social aspect and collaboration of our jobs that we all love. But it does give us more time to work on professional development goals we may have let slip in years past. Use this time wisely!
- 6

DON'T forget to move
Taking breaks to get away from the screen is important. Prioritize your health in your virtual workspace by going for walks at lunch, taking the stairs or pausing to stand throughout your day.
- 7

DO make your schedule known
Working from home may mean you have more coworkers than normal. Do make sure housemates, partners and children know your schedule and typical routine. This will limit interruptions (although they're bound to happen).
- 8

DON'T be on screens 24/7
Just like movement breaks are important, so are screen breaks. Take time to work in a notebook or print documents out so you can give your eyes a break. (BONUS tip: Blue light glasses can also help reduce the strain on your eyes!)

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-  Kentucky Engineering Center

2021 Professional Development Opportunities

JULY
21-23

NSPE-KY Annual Convention

The 2021 NSPE-KY Annual Convention date has been set and will be held at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington, Kentucky. We hope to see everyone there!



George M. Binder College Scholarship

Application deadline: April 1

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Applicant must be a member of a recognized student engineering organization (e.g. NSPE-KY, Tau Beta Pi, Chi Epsilon, ASCE, ASME, IEEE, SWE, etc.)
- ▶ Applicant must currently be enrolled in an ABET-accredited engineering program in Kentucky
- ▶ Applicant must be accepted and enrolled in a full engineering program (NOT pre-engineering)
- ▶ Applicant must have earned at least a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) based on 4.0 scale. The GPA will be computed by NSPE-KY based on the official transcript submitted with this application. The transcript must be certified.
- ▶ Applicant must be a full-time student, and must have been enrolled in an engineering or pre-engineering program for at least 4 of the preceding semesters
- ▶ Applicant must be a citizen of the United States

SELECTION CRITERIA

The scholarship will be awarded to an individual who has provided the greatest contribution to the engineering profession while maintaining a good grade point average through their engineering studies and extra curricular involvement. The following specific criteria will be considered:

- ▶ Overall GPA
- ▶ Civic and volunteer organizations (include any leadership positions)
- ▶ Professional Activities such as engineering society, scientific society, other professional organizations (include any offices that you now hold or have held in the past)

SELECTION CRITERIA (CONTINUED)

- ▶ Professional publications
- ▶ Work experience (include the type of work and length of employment in months)
- ▶ Credit will be given for involvement in NSPE-KY or the student chapter of NSPE-KY
- ▶ Written paragraph (less than one page) on why you want to be an engineer. May be typed or handwritten. Attach to completed application form.

Applications [found here](#).

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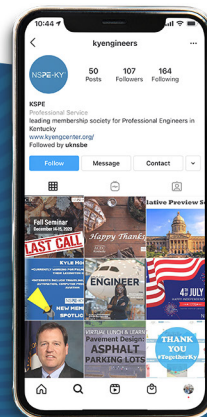
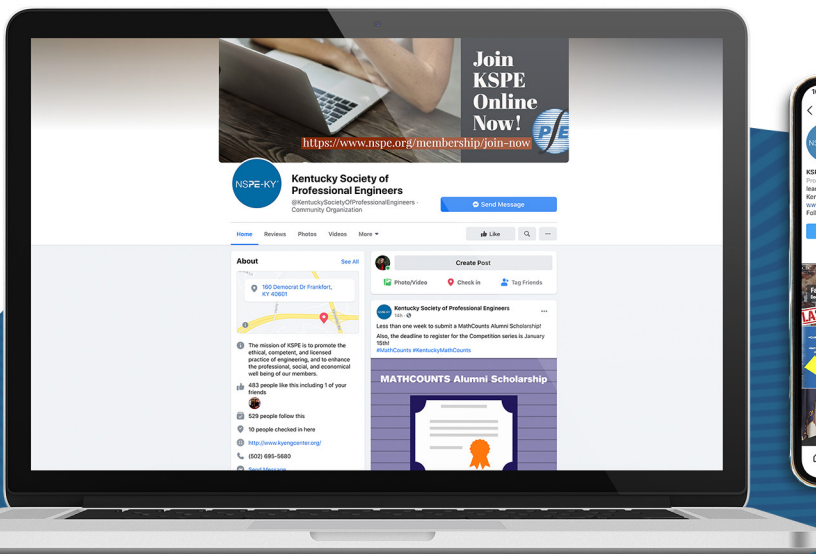
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STAY UP TO DATE ON ALL THINGS NSPE-KY!