

2019 Chattanooga Engineers Club President's Year End Report

2019 was a good year for the Chattanooga Engineers Club, starting off with our January 9th meeting where we learned about "Full Depth Reclamation on Asphalt Pavements" the first of 11 monthly meetings and 9 tours offered this year. In addition, we had a number of opportunities posted on our website for ASHRAE, ASME and CWE events.

In February, E-Week kickoff luncheon was our club's responsibility to organize and select the speaker, the club was well represented at the luncheon, Paul Snyder presented our Frazier Scholarship Program which is being administered through the Chattanooga Community Foundation, based on the criteria developed over the last several years by a number of our past presidents. This program will provide annually, \$10,000 each, for UTC and Chattanooga State Community College scholarships, as well as funding an additionally \$20,000 for deserving local students attending other engineering schools and STEM type programs such as Chattanooga Robotics. A number of our members will be involved with our Treasurer, Dr. Richard Manning to direct those funds. The Frazier Scholarship Program Fund will allow the club to continue this program for the next ten years.

Also, in February, we met at Bryan College where we were introduced to the Vogel School of Engineering by Dr. Tom Marshall, P.E., Dean of the School. In April, a delegation of the club attended the dedication and ribbon cutting where we toured the new facilities, laboratories and classrooms, which are outstanding! Since then one of our past presidents Paul Snyder (2017) has become an advisor for the school!

In April, eleven of our past presidents met for a planning session, where a number of topics were discussed including our relevance, future, standing committees, by-laws, scholarship program for the STEM type programs and club growth. Several assignments came out of this meeting including developing a "Corporate Membership" program to encourage more participation in our club. Lulu Copeland has worked very diligently to develop and initiate this new program with Tennessee American Water becoming our first Corporate Member, where our new 2020 President, Grady Stout, P.E. is the Manager of Engineering. We are looking forward to Grady's leadership next year! Another assignment was for the revision of our by-laws which Jerry McClanahan has been working on for presentation to the members in 2020.

Our Professional Development Hours (PDH) which are offered for most of our meetings are emailed to the members who sign in at each meeting and request a PDH Certificate. This membership benefit needs to be communicated to our engineering community associates. We are also talking about the possibility of making our website a clearing house for all the technical societies to announce their meetings. We believe that this is a great service the club can offer to our members and the engineering community as many engineers are not members of all the societies where they might be interested in the topics being presented at their monthly meetings.

The most significant issue we have had to deal with is establishing a regular meeting location; issues such as parking, cost of facility use, cost of meal and location have been difficult complications. This will continue to be the club's biggest challenge in 2020, so if anyone has an idea please share it with Lulu, Grady or me. Chattanooga State was very helpful to allow us to use a classroom near the cafeteria for several monthly meetings. I was a little disappointed that we didn't have better turn out for those meetings, this may mean that downtown is still our best location option.

I want to thank our members for their attendance and support this year, any club is only as useful as its members make it, so my hope is that in the future we do an even better job in taking advantage of the information provided, networking and communication among the engineering community! A special thanks goes to those who work behind the scene to make our club work: Lulu Copeland is invaluable for all her contributions, including programs, E-Week activities and promoting the club! In addition, Paul Snyder has developed our excellent website which is being used for more things continually, like paying our dues (now due) on line! Richard Manning continues to provide great leadership as our treasurer and has done so much together with our members to support Chattanooga Robotics' events. Also, I want to thank our program committee for working with Lulu to provide us with the monthly meetings speakers and tour opportunities, included in this group is, Alice Cannella, Harry Hawkins, Aram Perez and Mary Sedrick with additional support from other past presidents.

Finally, I would like to recognize our members who are vitally active in E-Week Planning and Support: Lulu Copeland, overall coordination of the week's activities for the committee; Julie Alcantara, E-Week Treasurer; Uwe Zitzow, website manager; Richard Manning and Harry Hawkins, representatives.

It has been my pleasure to serve with those mentioned above for the last year, I plan on continuing to support the club for the years ahead, God willing! Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Al Curtis