



President's Message // Craig Parker, P.E., ENV SP - Gresham, Smith and Partners

This board year has flown by like a stealth fighter during the national anthem. If there is one lesson I've learned over the past year, it's that life is too time consuming. I can't believe this is my last message. So,

with a sentimental heart and a teary eye, I write:

How about those Nashville Predators?! Here we go again, just like a year ago, the Predators are in the postseason and looking to get back to the Stanley Cup finals. Unlike last year, however, this year they are the favorites, having completed an incredible regular season. I am not ashamed to admit that last year, I was one of the thousands, previously categorized as "casual fans," who jumped on the Predators postseason bandwagon and rooted them on until the bittersweet end. Like so many, I found myself glued to the television, shouting encouragement and questioning calls by the referees, despite my still evolving understanding of the game and its rules. It was an unforgettable run and precursor to an incredible regular season this year. I realize not all of our members are Predators fans, and I'm aware of at least one Penguins fan who is likely rolling his eyes at my theme, but it's my last article as President, so cut me some slack.

So, what do the Predators have in common with the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers? I'm glad I asked.

1. It's never too late to jump on the bandwagon.

It doesn't matter if you're in the 1st period of your career or late in the 3rd – you can still get involved and make an impact. This team needs your talents. We need veterans to mentor the rookies, we need leaders to lead at both the chapter and state level, and we need sheer numbers to continue our awesome record of advocacy on Capitol Hill. Like Thomas Edison said, "If we did all the things we are capable of, we would literally astound ourselves."

TSPE FELLOW MEMBER NOMINATIONS

If you are interested in nominating members for TSPE Fellow status, the deadline for these nominations is June 1. Information about the TSPE Fellow nomination process can be found at <http://www.tnspe.org/Awards.htm>.

2. Success happens when careful preparation meets disciplined execution.

Need I say more? Plan the work and work the plan. Each year, late second quarter, the new TSPE board participates in a retreat to set goals for the ensuing board year. Just like the Predators general manager making deals in the off-season to improve the roster, TSPE looks for talented engineers to volunteer to fill board officer positions, committee chairs to work towards achieving the goals and fulfilling TSPE's mission. Success is evident when legislation goes our way, when we watch Mathletes and First robotics teams compete, and when we see engineers celebrated during E-week. Let's keep planning the work and working the plan. As Walt Disney said, "If you can dream it, you can do it." He also said, "The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing."

3. Winning is fun.

Last year's upstart Nashville Predators came within just two games of winning the coveted Stanley Cup, falling in Game 6 to the highly favored, defending champion Pittsburgh Penguins. Nevertheless, how much fun was it to be in Tennessee, especially Nashville last year? It's because winning is fun, especially among teammates and fans, and especially when the state fanbase was so starved for a winner. Former Houston Oilers coach Bum Phillips said it best when he said "Winning is only half of it. Having fun is the other half."

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the state society this year, but it's not quite over. Like the Predators, our season isn't over as long as there is time on the clock and our team is on the ice. Let's finish this season strong and lay a solid foundation for next year's board, which will be led by President Brent Johnson, P.E. He may not be as strong on the forecheck as the Preds' front line, but he'll make a great captain for next year's team. Thanks to all TSPE teammates for a memorable season. Go Predators!

INSIDE:

- TN Student "Mathletes"
- TN Engineering Foundation 2018 Scholarships
- TN Engineers' Conference
- News From National

TENNESSEE STUDENT “MATHLETES” ADVANCE TO NATIONAL MATHCOUNTS COMPETITION

// by Jake Greear, PE, TN MATHCOUNTS Coordinator



▲ Tennessee Team (L to R) George Zhang (Memphis University School), Alex Wang (Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville), Kerry Zhao (Memphis University School); Franklin Zhang (Tullahoma East Middle School) and Team Coach Meredith McFarlin (Memphis University School)

(Nashville, Tennessee, March 17, 2018) -- Teams of 6th, 7th and 8th grade student Mathletes from public, private, and parochial middle schools, junior high schools, and homeschooled students across Tennessee competed in the Tennessee state-level competition of the national MATHCOUNTS program on March 17, 2018, at the Tennessee Engineering Center in Nashville, Tennessee. The Tennessee MATHCOUNTS regional and state contests are organized and sponsored annually by the local chapters of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers and by the Tennessee Engineering Foundation. A total of 19 schools and 47 students from across Tennessee, winners of their local competitions in February, competed at the state-level competition. Teachers and students had prepared for this competition since the beginning of this school year. Students competed individually and as teams in written and fast-paced oral matches. Subjects included probability, statistics, linear algebra, and polynomials. Winners of the individual, team, and oral lightning “Countdown Round” competitions received awards and trophies. The State Team will compete at the National Competition at the Renaissance Washington, Washington, D.C. on, May 12-15, 2018. The team will be comprised of George Zhang (Memphis University School); Alex Wang (Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville); Kerry Zhao (Memphis University School); Franklin Zhang (Tullahoma East Middle School); and Team Coach Meredith McFarlin (Memphis University School).

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schallon@eastman.com

For additional information about chapter meetings and location, go to [www.tnspe.org/About Us/Leadership/ChapterPresidents](http://www.tnspe.org/About%20Us/Leadership/ChapterPresidents).

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Tennessee Engineers' Conference

September 17-18, 2018

Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, Franklin, TN

Engineering a Better World



The 2018 TN Engineers Conference will be at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs on Sept. 17-18, 2018. Be sure and mark your calendar!

Education Track chairs are working hard on another great line-up of seminars for the Tennessee Engineers' Conference. New this year... the conference will be on Monday and Tuesday!

- Registration, Sponsorships and Exhibitor Signup – all online!
- Six Education Tracks this year
- Plenary Session on Monday morning
- All meal events (even TEF Luncheon) are included in the price of registration
- All Meals and Events will be in the exhibit Hall with the exhibitors

The Tennessee Engineering Foundation Luncheon will be Monday, September 17. Guest Speaker will be announced soon! The luncheon raises money for the State MATHCOUNTS competition, scholarships for engineering students, and other STEM related activities. At the annual state TPE PAC Auction, we will put the fun in fundraising. We want to be able to support state legislative candidates who are supportive of our issues. Join us for the Welcome Reception and PAC Auction.

Don't miss the all-star line-up of speakers and events plus the opportunity to network with your peers at the Tennessee Engineers' Conference. You will be able to catch up with your colleagues from across the state, and support TSPE.

Make your plans now to be there! The Conference schedule and registration information will be available soon! Registration, Sponsorship and Exhibit Registration is all online this year and now available at <http://www.tnspe.org/Current%20Events.htm>.

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Tennessee Engineering Foundation 2018 Scholarships Awarded

Claire Barnett, PE, President of the Tennessee Engineering Foundation, announced the **2018 Tennessee Engineering Foundation (TEF) scholarships** will be awarded to four students. **Zachary Jerome** from Knoxville, TN, who is a Junior in Civil Engineering and Viola Performance at The University of Tennessee at Knoxville, won the \$4,000 **Dorothy and Arthur Crouch Memorial Scholarship**. TEF scholarships of \$3,500 each were awarded to **William Jesse Barnard** from Rocky Face, GA, who is a junior in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga; **Alec Brenner** from Ooltewah, TN, who is a freshman in Civil Engineering at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville; and **Tiana Lynn** from Bixby, OK who is a Junior in Civil Engineering at Lipscomb University in Nashville.

The TEF was established by a group of engineering organizations to advance and support the engineering profession in the State of Tennessee. TEF raises funds for scholarships and other kindergarten -12th grade science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education support activities such as MATHCOUNTS. The TEF is headquartered at the Tennessee Engineering Center, 800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville, TN, 37203.

Information and application for the 2019 Scholarships will be posted in the Fall of 2018



▲ Dale Davis, PE (L), TEF Trustee presents Zachary Jerome, UT Knoxville with the Dorothy & Arthur Crouch Memorial Scholarship.

New TSPE Members

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Taylor Taluskie PE
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Calendar of Events

Jun 29-30	TSPE Board Retreat and Meeting, Henry Horton State Park
July 18-22	2017 NSPE Professional Engineers Conference, Caesars Palace, Las Vegas
Sept. 17	TN Engineering Foundation Luncheon, Music City Center, Nashville
Sept 17-18	Tennessee Engineers' Conference, Music City Center, Nashville

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Pictured are Judy Logue with Kiersten Thompson,
Assistant Director for Membership and
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Tennessee law allows both personal and corporate contributions to TPE-PAC

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

NSPE Successfully Champions Federal Legislation to Strengthen QBS Requirements

NSPE successfully advocated for the inclusion of an important provision in the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R.4) to strengthen Qualifications Based Selection requirements for airports. NSPE and other engineering and construction associations sent a letter to Bill Shuster (R-PA), chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, urging the incorporation of a bipartisan amendment offered by Rep. Bruce Westerman, PE (R-AR) and Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL). The Westerman-Lipinski amendment clarifies existing rules to ensure that airports follow a uniform QBS process for airport projects that use Airport Improvement Program funds. “[E]ngineering and design are highly skilled, multi-disciplined professions whose services directly affect public safety and welfare. Firms provide technical expertise, innovation, and the latest technologies – skills that are the most important factors in enhancing project performance and cost savings. QBS ensures that these attributes are emphasized in the procurement process. The amendment would expand existing requirements to cover any airport project that uses federal AIP program funds at any stage.”

As a result of this initiative, the amendment was incorporated into the legislation. The House of Representatives approved the FAA reauthorization on April 27 by a vote of 393 to 13. The focus now shifts to the Senate where companion legislation is being drafted.

Mississippi Litigation Has Significant Implications for Use of the Term “Engineer”

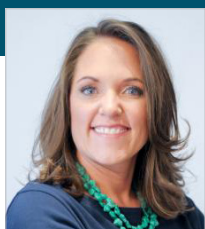
Current litigation in the federal courts in Mississippi involving a company calling itself “Tire Engineers” provides NSPE an opportunity to actively assert and advocate in federal court its longstanding policy and position that the misuse of the term “engineer” by unqualified and unlicensed individuals or companies is misleading and deceptive and endangers the public health and safety. A positive outcome in this matter could influence other states’ actions on the misuse of the term “engineer.”

In 2017, NSPE was contacted regarding pending litigation in which the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers, with the assistance of the Mississippi attorney general, sought to challenge an auto maintenance/tire company for using the business name Tire Engineers. The company did not engage in the practice of engineering and did not employ professional engineers in rendering its services. At the time, NSPE provided support to the Mississippi attorney general’s office in researching this issue. After negotiations broke down between the state of Mississippi and the company, Tire Engineers challenged Mississippi’s position and filed a declaratory judgment complaint in federal district court in Mississippi.

The federal court concluded that the company’s use of the business name “Tire Engineers” violated the Mississippi PE statute because the name was inherently misleading/deceptive. The court also rejected Tire Engineers’ commercial free speech and Lanham (trademark) Act claims. In its findings and conclusions, the federal court determined that there was clear evidence that Mississippi consumers were being misled/deceived by Tire Engineers’ use of its business name. The court noted that tire engineers are an actual and recognized group of qualified engineers working to design tires in the transportation industry and that, based upon the survey evidence, Mississippi consumers were being misled as to whether Tire Engineers used qualified tire engineers to perform company services and whether Tire Engineers was actually offering engineering services and/or performing its work with the level of skill and training of a qualified engineer.

Tire Engineers has appealed the federal district court’s decision to the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. The Mississippi attorney general has requested that NSPE file a “friend of the court” brief in the case in support of the Mississippi Engineering Society. The NSPE Board of Directors is actively considering the case, and NSPE will continue to provide updates regarding this litigation.

For additional information on these and other issues, visit www.nspe.org



2018 ELECTION // Kasey Anderson - TSPE Executive Director

While the 2018 Gubernatorial and Congressional races are certainly important for Tennessee, I’d like to draw your attention to the races that should be top-of-mind for engineers. All 99 state House seats and half the Senate seats will

be on the ballot in November, and there is plenty of work to do before the 111th General Assembly convenes in January. For starters, 23 House members are not seeking reelection, including the Speaker of the House, Democratic Leader, Finance Committee Chair, and Finance Subcommittee Chair. 24 additional incumbents have opponents in the primary, and 62 face opposition in the general election. On the Senate side, where only half of members run each election cycle, there are three open seats. Of the 15 races with incumbents, 12 face

opponents in either the primary or general election, or both. For those who don’t want to do the math, of 132 legislators in the General Assembly, only 29 are guaranteed to be there in 2019.

Suffice it to say, it’s time to step up our game. WE NEED YOUR HELP. The Tennessee Professional Engineers PAC is more important than ever. We have an opportunity to help keep our friends in office, and to boost the chances of success for candidates who are friendly to our profession. Every contribution to the TPE-PAC, no matter the size, will make a difference. Beyond the TPE-PAC, please get involved in your local races. If you’d like to know where incumbents and candidates stand on engineering issues, reach out to me and ask. Let’s keep up the good fight! Thanks again for ALL you do!

The logo for the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE-TN) is located in the top left corner. It consists of the letters "NSPE-TN" in a white, sans-serif font, with a small trademark symbol (TM) to the right. The text is set against a solid blue rectangular background.

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Successful Session for Tennessee Engineers Priority Issues

By Kasey Anderson - TSPE Executive Director

Tennessee engineers saw much success in the second session of the 110th General Assembly. TSPE followed 377 bills and played an active role in several dozen. We accomplished our goal in carrying legislation to strengthen Qualifications Based Selection, allowing the A/E board to provide guidance about QBS compliance, and had favorable outcomes in our efforts to protect utility companies and advocate for safe drinking water. We also successfully blocked and amended legislation that would have negatively affected our profession and/or the health, safety and welfare of the public related to the following: exemptions for mandatory sprinkler requirements, private purchase of utility districts, restrictions on smart meters, fluoride limits in public drinking water, apprenticeship programs, and changes to the permitting process for TDEC and other agencies.

Additionally, several exciting appropriations requests for which we advocated passed in this year's budget: \$3

million in recurring funds to Tennessee Tech College of Engineering, \$500,000 in continued grant funds to improve and maintain access to Tennessee's waterways, and an \$11 million earmark for the Energy Efficient Schools Initiative.

While TSPE provides your 'boots on the ground' at the Capitol every day, we are grateful for the many TSPE members who were involved in the legislative process by participating on our Government Affairs Committee, attending Engineers Day on the Hill, providing feedback on issues, and contacting legislators. I want to particularly recognize the efforts of David Brewer, chairman of the TSPE Government Affairs Committee. He is an outstanding leader for TSPE's efforts and is a huge part of our success. Thank you, Dave! In the coming months I will be doing Legislative Updates at local chapters across the state. There we will take a deeper dive into the outcomes from this session and what we see on the horizon. I hope you make plans to attend!