



Brought to you by TACERA

Texas Association of County Engineers & Road Administrators
www.TACERA1.COM

WHAT IS TACERA?

The Texas Association of County Engineers and Road Administrators is a professional organization which was chartered in 1987 to provide technical and professional interchange. Membership is open to all county road engineers, administrators and their staff. TACERA is affiliated with the National Association of County Engineers (NACE) and the Texas Public Works Association (TPWA). Our organization is headquartered in Austin, TX. This allows TACERA to bring its members timely, informative programs and services.



TACERA partners with LTAP to provide continuing education credits for professional engineers and county commissioners. Our annual conference and one-day workshops provide an opportunity to earn CEUs for your professional requirements.

TACERA 2019 Fall Conference & Golf Tournament

by Charlie Hastings, P.E., CFM, County Engineer, Kerr County – 2019 TACERA Past President

The 2019 TACERA fall conference was held at the Wyndham Riverwalk Hotel in the beautiful city of San Antonio and was attended by over fifty sponsors and over two hundred registrants. The conference kicked off with the annual scholarship golf tournament at Cedar Creek Municipal Golf Course and the weather could not have been better.

The keynote speaker, **Stacy Buck**, reminded us all that life is short and we must live intentionally and make time to engage our family, friends and coworkers. The technical sessions, as always, were very informing and the speakers did a great job with their presentations to allow engineers to earn up to 15 PDH's towards their certification. We were all treated to a delicious luncheon sponsored by Cooper Equipment and Wright Asphalt, which was highlighted by a presentation given by State Comptroller Glenn Hagar and capped with the TACERA awards ceremony.



The 2019 County Employee of the Year award recipient was Curtis Knowles with Tarrant County, and the 2019 County Engineer of the Year award recipient was Carolyn Dill with Bastrop County. Congratulations! We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2020 TACERA Annual Fall Conference October 26-29, 2020 at the Wyndham Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio, TX!

2019 TACERA Awards Announcement

by Robert Berndt, REM, Tarrant County

The Judges for the 2019 TACERA Awards included:

- Bryan Neaves – Bell County
- Tim Vande Vorde – Hays County
- Clarence Daugherty – Collin County
- Stephen Belknap – Denton County

A nominee for "County Road Employee of the Year" has shown excellence in performing road work duties, interacting with the public and furthering employee safety. This individual has demonstrated dedication to county road work policies, started new or improved current county road procedures and pursued the goals of safe work practices during county roadway maintenance and construction. Eligible candidates for this award are County Road Supervisors, Equipment Operators, Road Hands, Road Office Administrators or Staff.

The nominees for TACERA's "County Road Employee of the Year" Award were:

- Curtis Knowles – Tarrant County
- Monty Nivens – Wise County
- William Frank Eason – Tarrant County
- Lydia Linden – Williamson County

The Award was presented to Curtis Knowles from Tarrant County.



A nominee for "County Engineer / Road Administrator of the Year" has shown excellence in the field of public works management, promoting public safety and preserving & enhancing road infrastructure. This individual has demonstrated dedication through administration of his/her county's road management program in pursuing the goals of safe roadways while staying within budget. Eligible candidates for this award are County Engineers, Road Administrators, Public Work Directors, or Staff Engineers.

The nominees for TACERA's "County Engineer / Road Administrator of the Year" Award were:

- Michael Shannon – Galveston County
- Carolyn Dill – Bastrop County
- Nancy Baber – Galveston County

The Award was presented to Carolyn Dill from Bastrop County.



Would you like to host a TACERA workshop?

Contact us! Tacera1@att.net

TACERA Award Presentation

by Robert Berndt, REM, Tarrant County



On November 26, 2019, TACERA Vice President Joseph Jackson from Ellis County presented the 2019 TACERA County Road Employee of the Year Award to Curtis Knowles at the Tarrant County Commissioners Court meeting. Curtis is the Assistant Director of Field Operations for Tarrant County Precinct One. Precinct One Commissioner Brooks was so excited, he announced Curtis was the winner before Joseph could make the presentation. Everyone in attendance at the meeting gave Curtis a standing ovation. Congratulations on your Award Curtis Knowles!!

Stephen Eubanks, Bell County Engineering Technician

by Joseph Jackson, P.E., CFM, Ellis County

One of our most beloved TACERA board members, Stephen Eubanks, lost his battle with throat cancer in June of 2019. Stephen was born in April of 1965 in Beaumont, TX. He attended and graduated from Temple High School and then spent more than 25 years working in the surveying industry.

The last 13 years of his life were spent working for Bell County as the Engineering Technician. "At Bell County, Stephen established healthy relationships with surveyors and paid particularly close attention to details" said Bryan Neaves (Bell County Engineer). Stephen was in charge of plat review and land development at Bell County, but everyone who served on the TACERA Board or worked with him knew that his friends could depend on his help for any project thrown his direction.



Stephen was active in TACERA from 2015-2019 serving on various committees and writing and publishing the TACERA Newsletter, "The Roadrunner". Stephen received the TACERA County Road Employee of the Year award in 2018 and it couldn't have been more deserved. Another quote from Bryan Neaves, "I miss Stephen at work and as a friend. He was like a brother to me. I miss him every day." On behalf of TACERA, thank you Stephen for your hard work and service to TACERA and the County industry. May you rest in peace.

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NACE Assigns TACERA Member to Committee Chairmanship

by Robert Berndt, REM, Tarrant County

NACE President Tim Hens picked TACERA Member Robert Berndt from Tarrant County as Chairman of the Instructure and Environment Committee.

This committee, along with the other NACE committees, work to bring excellent speakers and topics to the Annual NACE Conference. The committee usually does its work through emails and conference calls. If you have any interest in this committee or have some great ideas for speakers and topics, please give Robert a call at 817-884-2634 or send an email to raberndt@tarrantcounty.com.



Upcoming Events/Training 2020 NACE Conference

Registration is open for the annual NACE Conference scheduled for April 19-23 at the Perdido Beach Resort and Wharf Event Center in Orange Beach, Alabama. NACE 2020 presents a fresh, new approach to how county road and infrastructure officials learn,



engage, and connect with one another. Over 100 exhibitors will represent a wide range of products and services:

from software to fleet management to safety to personnel to pavement. Registration opened Monday, November 18. TACERA will be sending a delegation.



Back Row; Markie Casebier, Selina Mirza, Jennifer Davidson, Robert Berndt, Stacy Slawinski, Lee Crowder
Front Row; Joe Trammel, Joe England, Joseph Jackson, Yancy Scott, Charlie Hastings

2020 TACERA Board of Directors

- Yancy Scott, Waller County - President
- Joseph Jackson, Ellis County - Vice President
- Joe England, Williamson County – Secretary/Treasurer
- Charlie Hastings, Kerr County - Past President
- Robert Berndt, Tarrant County - Director
- Stacy Slawinski, Fort Bend County - Director
- Jennifer Davidson, Lubbock County - Director



President Yancy Scott accepts the gavel from Past President Charlie Hastings