NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2019

If you’d like to become a YPT-Austin member or renew your membership, you can register here. We have a lot of great events coming up and we hope that you can be a part of making 2019 a great year for YPT- Austin.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

During this past holiday season, YPT Austin hosted both a food and toy drive event. On November 15, YPT collected a bucket-full of toys for a happy hour and food drive event at Sour Duck Market benefiting the Central Texas Foodbank. (Top)

On December 11, YPT hosted an Ugly Christmas Sweater Bowling and Operation Blue Santa Toy Drive at Dart Bowl. Members got the opportunity to compete against each other in both bowling and laser maze competitions. A counter full of toys was collected! (Bottom)

CHARIOT ROUNDTABLE

For our fall roundtable on September 19, Chariot presented to around 30 YPT-Austin members. Alice Pai, head of enterprise sales, and Jaime Piedra, Austin account executive, represented Chariot. Alice led the presentation about how Chariot is developing micro transit solutions around the City of Austin. They focused on how data collected from rides would be used to improve current operations. As of the roundtable, 49,274 passenger rides had been taken in 2018 with 242,780 passenger miles traveled. Average miles per ride was 4.92 for the Austin area. Chariot’s presence in the San Francisco Bay Area was largest with over 2.3 million passenger miles traveled and 464,000 passenger rides. Alice and Jaime also explained corporate partnerships they currently operate. One example was first and last mile service, morning and evening, between a large employer campus and a train station. Chariot also provides an intercampus route all-day for two employer building locations. Chariot brought one of their passenger vehicles for YPT-Austin members to sit in and visit with a driver.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Civil Engineering Networking Happy Hour
When: February 19, 2019
Time: 6-8:30 PM
Location: Abel's on the Lake

February Roundtable: "Project Development: Technical Analysis to Reality"
When: February 21, 2019
Time: 11:30-1 pm
Location: Center for Transportation Research, Suite #4. 11080
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: ALLEN YU

Tell us about yourself!
I was born and raised in Houston, TX. Fortunately I made it out of Houston when I attended the University of Texas at Austin, where I graduated in May 2017 with a Bachelor’s in Civil Engineering. After graduation, I joined Atkins Engineering as a part of their graduate engineer rotation program.

What inspired you to pursue a career in transportation?
A career in transportation appealed to me because of its highly visible impacts on the world around us. I first gained exposure to real world Transportation Engineering during my internship with the HDR Engineering Roadway group, where I was able to engage with and learn from experienced engineers. I also took a few transportation-related classes at UT that I enjoyed before starting work at Atkins.

What has been your favorite YPT event?
My favorite YPT event was the Happy Hour at Full Circle Bar. It was great getting to meet and talk to other folks working in transportation, and the free skee-ball was another plus. They also have this pretty neat decoration on the back outside wall with painted letters and Christmas lights like in a certain very popular Netflix show.

What has been your favorite project to work on?
My favorite project to work on has been a highway in El Campo. I liked this project because I first began working on this project by helping our Traffic group out with signing and pavement marking plans, and later I was able to work on it again with our Roadway group. It was a valuable experience being able to see a project come together from two different perspectives.

What’s the biggest challenge you have faced as a young professional in transportation?
I think the biggest challenge for me has been trying to communicate to others what I am thinking. Sometimes I know what I mean but I don’t know the best way to say it because I don’t want to be confusing or maybe I don’t know the proper engineering terminology yet. Hopefully at least my answers to these questions are understandable though.

What do you like to do for fun in Austin?
I’ve been to a few concerts in Austin that I really enjoyed. Last year I saw George Strait, Clay Walker, and Robert Earl Keen, each at a different venue, so it was fun being able to see live music at different places where people like to listen to some good jams. I also like to watch the Longhorns play football, and I look forward to next season after they handed Georgia a nice L in the Sugar Bowl.

NEW FACES FOR 2019

YPT-Austin would like to congratulate and welcome new Board of Director member for the upcoming year: Heather Sulaica (Vice Chair for Newsletter)
Thank You!