



2024 January Newsletter

APWA AZ January Message from the President



Welcome to the New Year! It's been a busy year so far – starting with a fabulous kickoff at our State Conference to the great holiday party in December and lots of activities in between. We have also been shocked by the unexpected passing of Lisa Rapp, our APWA National President Elect. Each year we balance the good and the bad, the expected and the unexpected. Often, we start the new year with a resolution to do better, to be better. What resolutions will you be making, whether personal or professional? Is it really a resolution, or just a new outlook on life? If this isn't done yet, you did not miss the “window of opportunity” – there is no perfect time, perfect plan, or perfect moment. **Today is the perfect day to start working on what you want** (borrowed from Mel Robbins).

With that in mind, I've decided to start a list about how I can be a better person, a better public works professional, and a better Chapter President. I hope you can be inspired to do more, but let's also take this as a work in progress – not something that adds stress.

My goals:

1. Stop waiting for the Perfect Time – just get started, even a small step is moving in the right direction. Each next step is then ready to go.
2. Reach out to friends/family/co-workers to connect. We made a concentrated effort to

do this during the pandemic but have let this slip as we got back to our “normal” lives. I’d like to better prioritize these connections.

3. Be more effective during regular work hours – focus on the work, but don’t take it home.
4. Make more time for myself – I listened to Billy Joel’s [Vienna Waits for You](#) recently and really listened carefully to the words. Stop rushing your desires and take time to reach your goals.

Reach your goals WHILE taking care of yourself, don’t pursue your goals exclusively. I hope you all have a great New Year.

-Nancy

Nancy Cole, APWA Arizona Chapter President

APWA National Education Events

Jan 14: [Veterans Employment and Training Services - How They Can Help in Your Workforce Development Needs](#)

***Click link to sign up.**

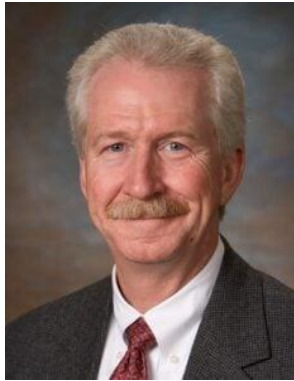
Thank you to all for a great APWA Holiday event, held on December 7th! We had a great turnout at the Culinary Dropout, with lots of fun and raffles for all. This event raised \$660 for the Saint Mary’s Food Bank, and we appreciate all of you who sponsored, provided raffle prizes and attended the event. And a special thank you to our Events Committee who provide opportunities such as this to Network & Give Back to the Community.

Title Sponsor: Terracon

Event Sponsors: Cooper Aerial, HilgartWilson, Neenah, Rinker Materials, Sundt, WSP



UPCOMING EVENTS



Alan Maguire will speak on the economic outlook over the next couple years nationally and here in Arizona. He will also have some comments on the expected impacts of rising interest rates, inflation, and the possibility of a recession, as well as touch on the changing residential housing market, affordability issues, and rental market trends.

Date: January 17, 2024 Time: 11:30am – 1:00pm

Location: Phoenix Country Club, 2901 N. 7th Street, Phoenix, AZ

Agenda: 10:00 AM APWA Arizona Board of Directors Meeting (Open to all Members)
11:30 AM Registration and Networking 11:50 AM Welcome by APWA President Nancy Cole
12:00 PM Update on projects from municipalities 12:10 PM Program 1:00 PM Adjourn

Registration Fees:

\$35/Members and \$45/Non Members through January 12th. Prices increase \$20.00 after January 12th.

We have some complimentary registrations for Public Agency Members. Contact us at apwaaz@gmail.com to request.

REGISTER



Young Professionals (YP) Update!

Before every Young Professionals (YP) Committee meeting, we state the following.

Our goal is “To recruit, develop, connect, empower and retain young professionals in APWA through increased opportunities and resources to enhance their professional development and success within the association and the public works industry”.

One of the ways we create opportunities is to encourage our committee members to find processes or projects they would like to learn more about. Then utilizing the APWA network to connect the professionals leading said topics & present it to our young professionals in a manner that enhances their professional development & meet other young professionals within our industry. We are starting 2024 strong with two presentations slated for January & February details can be found below.

YP Ryan Schwarzer (Kimley Horn) has allocated an all-abilities playground park tour presented by Zac Koceja supervising engineer at the city of Mesa. Defining what goes into designing a park for all.

Register Below!

[Young Professional Event – Tour of the City of Mesa’s Dobson Ranch Park – APWA Arizona Chapter](#)

YP Adrianna Lash & Cory Steele have been able to secure a presentation presented by Cecilia Riviere assistant Director at University City Exchange & Rio Reimagined. Presenting on how the Salt & Gila River is connecting communities, restoring & revitalizing healthy rivers and developing economic responsibility.

Register Below!

<https://arizona.apwa.org/event/rio-reimagined/>



Alexander McLaren Obituary

Alexander Rattray Nicol McLaren, born on June 9, 1946, in Germiston, South Africa, passed away unexpectedly on December 14, 2023, in Scottsdale, Arizona, at the age of 77. Survived by

his wife Cheri, sons James and Andrew, and a large extended family, Alex's sudden death has deeply saddened his family and dear friends. Raised in South Africa, Alex later moved to the United Kingdom before settling in Arizona with his second wife Cheri, where he enjoyed a fulfilling career at the City of Scottsdale until his retirement in 2007. Alex's impact extended beyond his professional life, with active engagement in civic affairs, leadership roles in engineering organizations, and a lifelong commitment to learning and creativity. He cherished his family, loved the outdoors, and recently returned from a month-long trip in Europe. Alex's flame may be extinguished, but it will forever burn in the hearts of those who loved him.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Full conference registration includes all events and meals. We are proud of the fact that we provide more food and drinks to our attendees than any other conference in Arizona. Make sure to sign up now before the price increase on May 1st.

- Full Private Industry Employee = \$400 (after 05/01/24 = \$450)
- Full Public Agency Employee = \$300 (after 05/01/24 = \$350)
- Awards Luncheon Only = \$75
- Fun Night Guests (Adults Only, Kids Are Free) = \$50

BOOK YOUR ROOM

The Arizona Chapter APWA Statewide Conference will be held at the El Conquistador Tucson, a Hilton Resort. **The \$89++ per night room rates remain the same since 2014.** Pricing is good until the room block is full or July 21st, whichever comes first.

EXHIBITORS

Reservations of booths are on a first come basis, so book yours today to get the best spot. Visit the website to see availability. Exclusive exhibit hall times are provided with networking, food, and prize drawings to create prime opportunities for exhibitors to make strong impressions.

Sign up before March 1st and save \$300!

SPONSORS

Thank you to the firms who have supported the Statewide Conference in the past and those who have already registered as sponsors this year. We still have more opportunities available including the following exclusive sponsorships: **Keynote Sponsor, Wi-Fi Sponsor, Badge Wallet Sponsor, and Agency Showcase Bag Sponsor.**

Other non-exclusive sponsorships include: **Platinum Sponsor, Gold Sponsor, Awards Lunch Sponsor, Thursday Breakfast/Break Sponsor, Friday Breakfast/Vendor Drawing Sponsor, Public Agency Sponsor, and Prize Drawing Sponsor.**

Help encourage Public Agency attendance by donating \$300 towards the Public Agency Sponsorship. This sponsorship covers the registration fee for a public works employee to attend the conference and showcases your firm's name as a contributor.

**FOR MORE CONFERENCE INFORMATION VISIT
AZAPWACONFERENCE.COM**



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Details Available Now and Abstracts Due by 02/16/24

Arizona Chapter APWA invites the submittal of abstracts for presentations at the Statewide Conference. The conference will be held at the El Conquistador Tucson on August 14-16, 2024.

Highlights:

- All topics of interest to our membership will be considered, whether they are leadership, management, funding and financing, motivational, operational, career development, or technical.
- Present on a variety of topics that teach attendees something new and provide them with innovative ideas and/or lessons learned.
- Panel discussions are encouraged.
- We are interested in hearing from Public Agency members as individual or panel discussion presenters.
- Presentations are typically 30 minutes or 60 minutes but more time can be requested for demonstrations and/or training.
- Abstracts are due by February 16, 2024.

SEE MORE ABSTRACT DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE AZAPWACONFERENCE.COM



COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Event Committee

Communications Committee

History Committee

Professional Development Committee

Membership Committee



[Click here for Public Works Job Openings](#)

American Public Works Association Arizona Chapter

2024 State Awards: Call for Nominations

Deadline: February 5, 2024, by Noon

The Arizona Chapter of APWA is calling for nominations for the 2024 State Awards program. These awards recognize outstanding projects and public works staff across Arizona. The awards will be presented at the Annual Conference in Oro Valley, AZ in July.

The award categories include:

- Professional Managers of the Year (multiple categories)
- Young Professional of the Year
- Small Cities/Rural Communities Projects of the Year
- Public Works Projects of the Year:

- Structures: Public structure rehabilitation, municipal buildings, parks, bridges, etc.
- Transportation: Roads, bridges, sidewalks, bicycle paths, mass transit, etc.
- Environment: Treatment and recycling facilities, landfill reclamation, water and sanitary sewer projects, etc.
- Historical Restoration and Preservation: Restoration and adaptive reuse of existing buildings and facilities, etc.
- Disaster or Emergency Reconstruction or Repair: Flood recovery, drought remediation, storm cleanup, etc.

Awards criteria and nomination form may be found at:

<https://arizona.apwa.org/news/2024-chapter-awards/>

Please email nominations to:

apwaaz@gmail.com

Attention: AZAPWA Awards Committee.

Questions may be directed to Chris Ewell at chris.ewell@phoenix.gov

APWA Annual Sponsorship July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	
Corporate Chapter Sponsor Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website (logo displayed) • Chapter email notices (logo displayed) • Meeting Sponsor (logo displayed at a Phoenix monthly luncheon and a \$50 gift card door prize is included and handed out in the sponsors name) • Networking Mixers Sponsor (logo displayed) • Sponsor highlight in the newsletter for one month • Committee Growth – Young Professionals Event Sponsor (logo displayed on event emails) • Support for Public Agency Members to attend monthly meetings at a discounted rate 	\$600
Special Event Sponsor Typical special events are Diamondback Game Night, Bowling, Holiday Mixer. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo on website event page • Logo on event flier and email notices • Logo on signage at event • 1 Ticket to attend event 	\$500/per event
Print Sponsor Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Newsletter (logo displayed) • Sponsor highlight in the newsletter for one month • Website (logo displayed) • Chapter Email Notices (logo displayed) 	\$300
Branch Sponsor Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website (logo displayed) • Chapter email notices (logo displayed) • Meeting Sponsor (logo displayed at meetings) • Branch Sponsor highlight in the newsletter for one month Select which Branch you are interested in sponsoring <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Branch (meets Quarterly); <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Branch (meets monthly)	\$250

Please consider Sponsorship opportunities as your organization is preparing for 2024 Budgets.
<https://www.gocheckyourcalendar.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1760153>



Thank you for our Sponsors!

Ninyo & Moore

Geotechnical and Environmental Sciences Consultants

