

## UPCOMING EVENTS

North American Snow Conference

April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
Kansas City, MS

PWX -Public Works Expo  
September 8-11, 2024  
Atlanta, GA



### A NOTE FROM JEFF...

Happy Holidays! This time of the year we are reminded to be thankful for the many great things in our lives. I like to focus on the people that have a positive influence on my life. Public Works professionals improve the quality of life for our communities and for that, I am thankful. As first responders, your teams show up in force in emergency situations to save property and life. This may sound like just a job to some, but your commitment is admirable and your communities are enhanced by your service.

As the holidays approach, I'm sure you are busy planning and coordinating the many community events often held this time of year. My imagination runs wild with images of Santa Claus riding on a fire truck, various community organizations riding on floats and throwing out goodies. In some communities, even public works trucks and employees have the opportunity to participate in the annual Christmas parades. These community events represent what makes our towns and cities – the people. For the people making up our communities, I am thankful.

I am also thankful for the Alabama chapter of APWA! Consisting of representatives of some of the best public works departments in the state, these individuals volunteer their time to bring recognition to public works. I am proud to serve with these incredible people!

I would like to highlight a recent accomplishment – Congratulations to the City of Mobile on completing their APWA Accreditation! This is not an easy, or quick process to complete, but through the dedication of many in the City of Mobile's Public Works Department, the city is the first in the State of Alabama to attain the accreditation.

Lastly, Please be on the lookout for upcoming events as we start 2024. Make plans to attend PWX in Atlanta from September 8 – 11, 2024. Keep an eye out for the Alabama Chapter 2024 Roadeo and other exciting events currently being planned for the year. Thank you all again for all you do to serve our communities! I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!

Respectfully,

Jeff Wilcox,  
Alabama Chapter President





# Bunny Sansom Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament

## Winners!



### 1st Place

Spire, Jeff Wilcox, Wesley Cox, Justin Castanza,  
Conner Plessala



### 2nd Place

Seal Master, Dakota Chastain, Simon Rosenbauer, Chad  
Saylor



### 3rd Place

Jeff Cherry, Kyle Cherry, Keelan Cherry, Spire



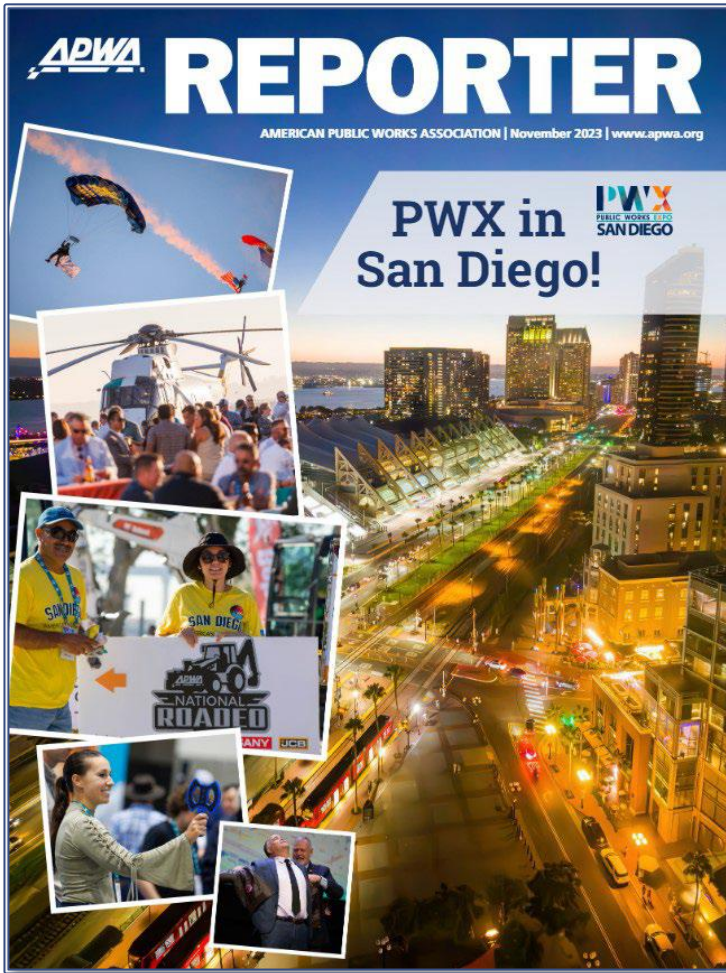
### Longest Drive and Closest Pin

Kyle Pennington, Mitch Pugh

# TIMBERLINE

Timberline Golf Club  
300 Timberline Trail  
Calera, AL 35040





## Public Works EXPO!

The 2023 PXW took place on August 27-30, 2023 at the San Diego Convention Center.

Attendees got to experience a huge exhibit floor for public works equipment and services.

Sessions were available throughout the day for more than 5,000 public works colleagues from North America and beyond!

If you missed it, no need to worry! You have the option to purchase the library access of the 2023 PWX (and many years prior as well!)

Please visit [apwa.digitellinc.com](http://apwa.digitellinc.com) for more information.

## Don't miss out!

### North American Snow Conference

April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Kansas City, MO

- Expert led snow and ice education sessions.
- Exhibit floor full of vendors.

For more info, visit [North American Snow Conference](#)

### PWX Atlanta

Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Atlanta, GA

- Seminars, sessions, workshops and network opportunities.
- Non-compete time so you explore the exhibit floor and make all the sessions!

For more info, visit [PWX Conference](#)

**APWA**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**PLAN TO JOIN US FOR APWA'S 2024 CONFERENCES**

Whether you attend one or both, we'll provide you with a show experience that lets you learn, network, and connect with hundreds of innovative public works leaders.

**NORTH AMERICAN SNOW CONFERENCE KANSAS CITY, MO APRIL 28 - MAY 1**

**PWX PUBLIC WORKS EXPO ATLANTA SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024**

For more information visit: [www.apwa.org/events/](http://www.apwa.org/events/)

# Delegate Update

Please see the following updates of the APWA Alabama Chapter.

At PWX in Charlotte in 2022, I was challenged by then APWA president, Keith Pugh, to increase Alabama's involvement and recognition at the National level. Having recently concluded another successful PWX in San Diego, CA, I can say that the Alabama Chapter was well represented. We had almost 30 members in attendance at the conference and around 20 those members gathered to socialize at the Chapter dinner. However, something was still missing. All the efforts that our Chapter members and their organizations have made over the past year went unnoticed by many in attendance at the conference, and I would like to see our membership recognized at the National level for its tireless efforts to improve our communities that we call home.

To help Alabama get the recognition that it justly deserves on the National stage and on the stage at PWX, the Chapter's Board of Directors has reinitiated a Project of the Year Awards program at the State level. The notification and the forms for this program were recently emailed out to the membership for their review and use. These forms mirror the National submittal forms, and it is the Chapter Board's intent to enter the winner(s) of the State level competition for consideration for a National Award. Additionally, by submitting for a National award, the Chapter will have completed a significant piece of the puzzle for consideration by Nationals for a President's Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE).

The best part is that this recognition could come close to home next year. PWX 2024 will be hosted in Atlanta from September 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>. So please mark your calendars for this event. I will be sending out reminders in the coming months about PWX so that the Chapter can get a good headcount for event planning.

I look forward to seeing the Award submittals that our members submit and having those projects and your efforts recognized by the full membership of APWA.

Thank you for all that you do.

Respectfully,

Larry Ingram, PE

APWA Alabama Chapter Delegate



**Larry Ingram**  
APWA Alabama Chapter Delegate

## SPOTLIGHT – ARTS ALLEY IN FAIRHOPE, AL



**Richard Johnson**  
City Engineer  
City of Fairhope



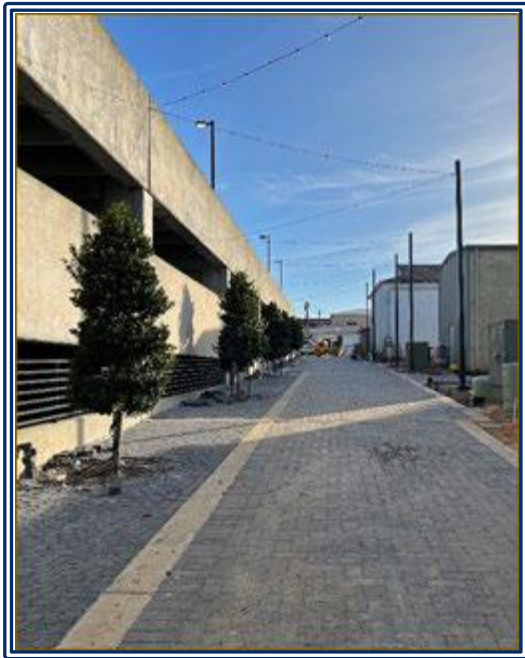
The City of Fairhope, Alabama, began as a dream in the minds of a group of populist reformers who were seeking their own special utopia. Fairhope has always been a resort community; early visitors came by Bayboat from Mobile to vacation in the small bay cottages and hotels along the bluff top. Vacationers came to Fairhope in the early days for the same reasons they do today: its pleasant climate, peaceful surroundings, and inspiring scenery. Over the years artists, writers, and craftsmen have found Fairhope to be an inspiring haven for their work and have helped to make the community what it is today.

Today, the City of Fairhope is one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Alabama with a dynamic and economically diverse downtown Central Business District. At its core lies a public parking garage served by a series of “back-of-house” working public alleyways. Fairhope found the public parking underused and the alleys in disrepair and uninviting. A downtown walkability study conducted in 2012 found these alleys, public parking, and unutilized public space to be ideal for improvements in accessibility, walkability, public parking, and public transit. Thus, was born the “Arts Alley” Public Works Project.



Unanimous funding support from the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization (ESMPO) was granted in 2015. Project initiation began in earnest in 2017. Feasibility, planning, and design begun in the Fall of 2018. Funding is through Federal Transit Administration (5307 Funds). Input from all stakeholders identified concepts and project objectives are part of this cohesive and functional design to deliver a high functioning, multi-modal, aesthetically pleasing, safe and community cohesive transit hub to downtown Fairhope. The process to get to final approval and under construction involved a long NEPA Process, Funding Challenges, a world-wide pandemic, multiple rebids, and massive inflation

on construction costs. However, the project prevailed, and construction started in November 2022.



The Fairhope Transit Hub project has layers that create a functioning, sustainable and inviting transit node. Below the surface, the storm drainage improvements will help control the site stormwater that has plagued this area of downtown for years. Due to extensive drainage and utility improvements, all the existing asphalt pavement was removed, allowing new paved driving, and walking surfaces. To minimize the amount of stormwater runoff from this area, pervious pavement and landscape systems allow for a filtration mechanism in the urban landscape to improve the water quality before it ends up in a piped underground drainage network. The pervious brick paver and cobblestone surfaces are not only aesthetically pleasing they contribute to the low environmental impact of the redevelopment.

*“Arts Alley is the collaborative vision of the community, and serves as a canvas for the talent, creativity, and hospitality represented in Fairhope,”* says Lead Designer, Christian Preus, PLA, founding principal of CPLA Design+Planning.

For visitors coming into town to have a clear understanding of where parking is, signage and character elements are necessary to provide an identity to this transit node. Wayfinding and gateways clearly define this as a destination. Visitors and residents utilizing the transit hub should feel safe and welcome. Therefore, an emphasis on lighting the entire improved area with a variety of lighting types to match the vertical character of the spaces created. Lastly, residents and visitors utilizing this transit hub should be able to have a public restroom facility available to them without having the burden of using a store’s facilities or walking five minutes to the nearest public restroom. All these improvements are valid and functioning elements of this project.

Project completion is set by the end of January 2024. This is a multifaceted public works project that incorporates transportation (public, private, multimodal, and commercial), drainage, utilities, sanitation, landscape, hardscape, vertical construction and of course public art murals and sculptures. The project team consists of City of Fairhope, Baldwin County Commission, Eastern Shore MPO, Baldwin Regional Area Transit System (BRATS), Fairhope Single Tax Corporation, CPLA Design+Planning, Thompson Engineering, Paul Davis Architects, Dell Consulting, Smith Mechanical, Fairhope Public Utilities – Electric, Gas, Water & Sewer, Fairhope Public Works, Hanna Legg – Mural Artist, Bruce Larsen - Sculptor and R.H. Deas General Contractor.



## PWX Chapter Luncheon

The APWA Alabama Chapter had a wonderful time at the PWX in San Diego this year! They had the opportunity to meet together for good food and even greater company.



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Learn more at:

[www.AL811.com](http://www.AL811.com)

## Want to recognize a Public Works project or employee?

Contact anyone on the Executive Committee with information regarding a project, employee or anything positive related to Public Works in Alabama and it could be featured in an upcoming newsletter. We want to shine a positive light on Public Works!

## CONTACT US

### Executive Committee

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### Executive Committee Members Needed!

Our chapter currently has **two (2)** openings on its Executive Committee. Members who are interested, please contact Chapter President, Jeff Wilcox at [Jeff.Wilcox@SpireEnergy.com](mailto:Jeff.Wilcox@SpireEnergy.com) or any current member of the Executive Committee.

*We welcome your feedback! Please send ideas or suggestions to any member of the Executive Committee.*

#### APWA Mission Statement:

*To be an active, unified Public Works organization, providing leadership, education, training, direction and support on Public Works issues to its members, elected officials, and the public, every day, as well as during times of natural disaster.*