It’s hard to believe that it’s already December and another year is almost in the books! Our Midland’s Branch has enjoyed an outstanding year highlighted by several unique presentations, an extremely successful Harvest Hope food drive, and the invaluable networking opportunities with our members that our monthly meetings provide. We hope to build on the success of 2014 with an even better 2015, and with your help we know it’s achievable. Be sure to mark your calendar for January 21 when our guest speaker will be South Carolina Senator Greg Gregory. He will discuss his views on highway funding in the state of South Carolina. Also, be on the lookout for upcoming invitations for younger member’s events and other opportunities to network with our members and others in the engineering community.

Our final meeting of the year is December 17 at Brookland Baptist. Our speaker will be Ralph Foster on the topic of Fire Protection Systems.

Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

Thank you in advance and see you soon

Beth
Have you ever received a letter from the State Fire Marshal's Office inviting you to submit the underground fire protection piping for review and approval? Have you ever wondered what you did to deserve such special treatment? Well the time for answers is now! This seminar will explain the cause for such letters; will review the Sprinkler Act; the Fire Sprinkler System Specification Sheet and the Certificate of Compliance; and what NFPA 24 requires on drawings. Suggested strategies to avoid rejection letters and other surprises months after you have archived the project will be provided.

Speakers Bio:

Ralph Foster is a Fire Protection Engineer licensed in multiple states. He earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of South Carolina and holds several NFPA certifications. He worked for the SC State Fire Marshal's Office for 19 years before opening Foster Engineering & Consulting. He is a member of SFPE, NFPA, ICC, and AFSA. He is active in the CSRA Chapter of the SFPE, the SC Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association, and the SC Fire Marshals Association. He retired from the SC Army National Guard after 28 years of service. He is an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 10, and resides in Columbia with his family.

Take a moment to say Thank You to our speaker.
## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speaker &amp; Topic</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 17 11:30</td>
<td>MB, GB</td>
<td>BBCCC</td>
<td>Ralph Foster Foster Engineering &amp; Consulting</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15 6:00</td>
<td>Millstone @ Adams Pond</td>
<td>Young Members Oyster Roast</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 21 11:30</td>
<td>MB, GB</td>
<td>BBCCC</td>
<td>SC Senator Greg Gregory Highway Funding in SC</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27 6:00</td>
<td>The Palmetto Club</td>
<td>Legislative Reception</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Brookland Baptist Church Conference Center = BBCCC*
*Midlands Branch General Body Meeting = MB*

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**ASCE Midlands Branch**

**2014 Harvest Hope Food Drive**

Thank you!

In South Carolina 1 in 6 people struggle with hunger. Our branch collected 459lbs of food this holiday season. Your donation and generosity is very much appreciated.
January 15
YOUNG LEADERS SOCIETY AND TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY'S
4th Oyster Roast
Adams Pond

HELP US KEEP OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY WARM BY BRINGING
WARM WEATHER ITEMS AS DONATIONS TO THE EVENT! WE ARE
COLLECTING ITEMS SUCH AS COATS, SCARVES AND GLOVES TO
SUPPORT TRANSITIONS AND THE INCLEMENT WEATHER CENTER.
MORE INFO AT WWW.YLSMIDLANDS.COM

Join us for food, drinks and live music!
TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY- COME SHARE YOUR PEARLS OF WISDOM WITH YLS!

Tickets: $25
$15 for YLS and Tocqueville Members
RSVP AT WWW.YLSMIDLANDS.COM

The Millstone at Adam's Pond
5301 Bluff Road
Columbia, SC 29209
January 15, 2015
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact Whitney Chisholm at wchisholm@uway.org or 803-733-5419
In Honor of the General Assembly,

The Design Construction Partnership
American Council of Engineering Companies of SC
(ACEC-SC)
South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers
(SCSPE)
American Society of Civil Engineers South Carolina
Section (ASCE-SC)
The American Institute of Architects South Carolina
Chapter (AIASC)
Carolinas AGC

Invites Members
to attend the Annual

Legislative Reception
Tuesday, January 27, 2015
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Palmetto Club
1231 Sumter St. • Columbia, South Carolina

Business Attire

Please RSVP by January 20 by calling
(803) 771-4271 or
Email: ginger@jma-associations.com