



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS USA
Research Triangle Professional Chapter

Newsletter

March 2025

**Kids at the Chipozo Water System
Dedication Ceremony**



*Nesting pair at Shelly Lake, Raleigh,
NC. EWB-RTP quarterly clean-up
[//ewb-rtp.org/chapter-calendar/](http://ewb-rtp.org/chapter-calendar/)*

*Michael Mantini
9/2015*



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Coming Up Events

Chapter Meeting	Sat, March 22	4-5:30
	421 N Harrington St, Raleigh	
NC State Student Chapter	Fri, April 11	6-8:30
Benefit Dinner	JC Raulston Arboretum, Raleigh	
	https://support.ewb-usa.org/event/north-carolina-state-university-raleigh-chapter-benefit-dinner-2025/e664243	
Reach for the Stars	Sat, April 12	9-12
STEM event	McKimmon Center, Raleigh	
	Reach for the Stars! Be a Star! STEM Fair The Science House	
Shelly Lake Clean-Up	April 19	9-12 ²

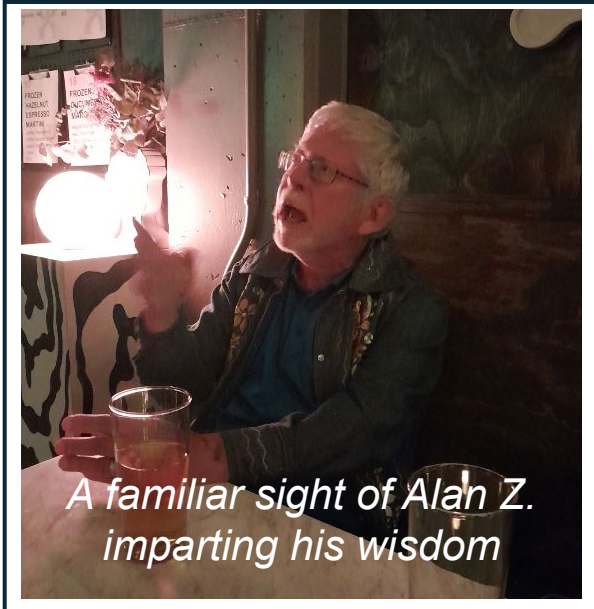
People

Many Thanks and Best Wishes, Alan Zagoria!



We wish “Alan Z.” a fond farewell as he and his wife move into their new home in Golden, CO, close to family. Alan has been a significant part of our professional chapter’s development for 10 years. As liaison with the NC State student

chapter and a leader and mentor on international projects to our chapter. His guidance on technical issues and processes has resulted in higher quality projects and more sustainable solutions.



Great thanks and best wishes to you and yours Alan Z.

We miss you already!



People

Welcome New Members Since Jan, 2024!

Joey Koch

Name	Home town	Background
Denise Athaide	Mumbai, India	Power Electronics Engineer
John Bang		Professor, Env Health
John Anthony Barrios	Raleigh, NC	Chemical Engineer
Madison Cordle		Public Policy Research
Anne Davin		Env Engineer
Steve Hildebrand	Apex, NC	Aerospace Engineer
Clint Gibson	Henderson, NC	Mechanical and Electronics Engineer
Joey Koch	Durham, NC	Civil Engineer
Andrea Maloney		
Theron Matthews	Newport, VT	Transportation Engineer
Larry McDowell	Atlanta, GA	Structural Engineer
Lauren Montigue	Dallas, TX	ME student, U of Michigan
Theo Posthumus-Soilis	Charlotte, NC	Software Engineer
Christa Shreve	Atlanta, GA	Civil Engineer
Andrew Tibbets	Raleigh, NC	Chemical Engineer
Alex Weaver		Chem Process Engr
Sydney Weaver		Bio-Chem Engr
Joe Witzel	Milwaukee, WI	Electrical Power Systems Engineer
Joel Youngblood		Process& Ctl Engr

We all know it can be difficult to get engaged in a new volunteer organization. Here are steps to get there.

Bookmark the EWB-RTP home page	Engineers without Borders Research Triangle, NC Chapter (ewb-rtp.org)
Get on EWB-RTP Email Distribution List, if not already. We probably have this from when first meeting you. If not ...>	go to the CONTACT US tab at the main page.
View EWB-USA Volunteer Village Registration and Onboarding Training Videos	Registration required to be official chapter member and get all communications. Videos focusing on the most important part of implementing a successful international project-cultural appreciation and mutual respect. Good refreshers for experienced volunteers. How to become a member of EWB RTP.pdf - Google Drive
Engage!	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to the CALENDAR tab at the main page. 2. See you there!
Get on SLACK 	This is EWB-RTP's main communication and collaboration tool. Download the app on phone and PC. You will be invited to the group, projects, etc.. It is organized by topic/project and has threads within those channels as well as DM functionality. > Email ewb.usa.rtp@gmail.com to be added to Slack.
Get on Google Docs for file sharing and retention. 	You'll be sent the link to the top-level file structure.

Featured Article: Meet Sucely Ical Lem (Sucy)

<https://www.facebook.com/museo.katinamit>



Sucy is the Director of the NGO “Centro Comunitario Educativo Pokomchi” (CeCEP), which conducts many activities on behalf of the local indigenous Pokomchi population. In this role, she is the lead coordinator for five EWB projects near San Cristobal Verapaz, including ours. Sucy is our primary connection to the communities we work with, and also leads the coordination for procurement of materials and management of the local work teams. In addition, Sucy is a wonderful host for our visits to San Cristobal!



Sucy reviewing the Project Partnership Agreement with the community in Chiquiguita on Feb 16th



Headquarters of CeCEP (“Museo Katinamit”)

EWB-USA National Conference

March 7-9, 2025, Sheraton/Le Meridian, Charlotte, NC

The EWB USA National Conference took place recently in our own backyard of Charlotte NC.. It was attended by about 700 student and professional chapter members as well as HQ staff who did a great job! The agenda consisted of multiple tracks covering topics ranging from technical, aspects, project management and community engagement.



EWB-RTP hosted the volunteer event prior to the Friday sessions, planting trees for a restoration project run between the community, local government and nonprofits.



EWB RTP Conference attendees Bruce Binney, Caitlyn Cano, Emma Guertin, Stephen Kridel and of course our Guatemala NGO partner Sucy “Sucy” Ical Lem

Sucy explains the EWB RTP Guatemala Solay Pumping project during a project information exchange event

International Projects

Chipozo, Guatemala

Bruce Binney

Great news on the Chipozo Solar-Powered Water Pumping system!! The system is in operation and the community hosted a wonderful dedication ceremony during our visit in May. Here is a photo of some happy customers. We are currently implementing “Phase 4” which includes a number of system enhancements with funding by a Rotary district grant. These enhancements include adding rainwater catchment into the system, the logic being that when it is raining there won’t be sufficient solar power for pumping. Stay tuned for more details!



International Projects

Chiquiguita, Guatemala

Bruce Binney

Now that we are successfully bringing the Chipozo project to completion, we have been approved by EWB HQ to embark on another water project in the nearby community of Chiquiguita. This community is even more remote than Chipozo, with no electricity or communications and accessible only by 4WD vehicle. The project will improve two springs and pump the water to an elevated tank for gravity distribution to a number of tapstands. The next step for the project will be to conduct an assessment trip this summer (July or August) to determine further details on the needs of the community, and of course we'll be ramping up the fundraising.

Here is a photo taken during a short visit that we made in August, featuring community members on the left, the mayor of Santa Cruz on the right, and of course Sucy of our NGO partner (CeCEP). This will be an exciting project!



Travel opportunity for Assessment Trip in July or August 2025!!

Community Engagement *Alan Davidovich*

Powell Elementary School Water Distribution

Powell Center for Play and Ingenuity Magnet Elementary School in Raleigh requested help in getting their existing plant bed watering system operational, using gravity feed, a bike-powered pump and an automated electronic system.



Status: Manual bike-driven pump system has been restored but not considered a long-term solution. Lesson modules are being developed by the Powell staff. EWB is concepting the system design.

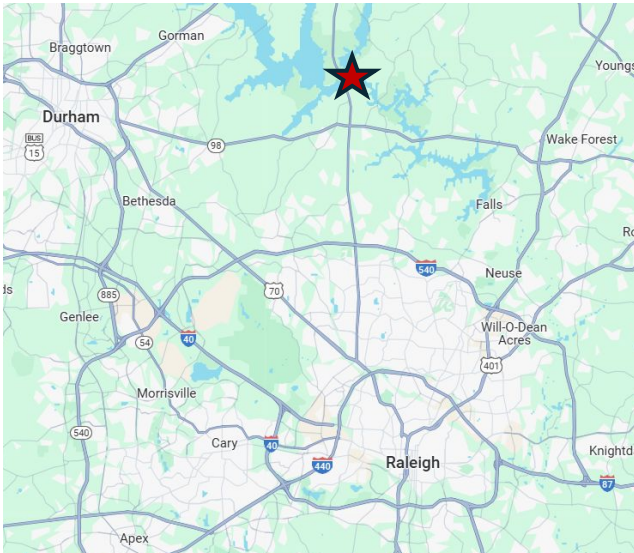
Join [Powell Elementary](#) Slack channel.
to help brainstorm automated system requirements

Community Engagement

Old Creedmoor Bridges for Adapted Biking

Mark Jolly

Triangle Land Conservancy requested help in designing and building short bridges for adapted mountain biking on their trails at Old Creedmoor Preserve.



Status: 4 bridges complete. A 25 ft span design for last bridge complete. Installation planned late March.



Join [#local-tlc-creedmoor](#) Slack channel.
Build opportunity coming in November.
Bridge design support welcome.

Calendar

For more details on events, go to
<https://ewb-rtp.org/chapter-calendar/>

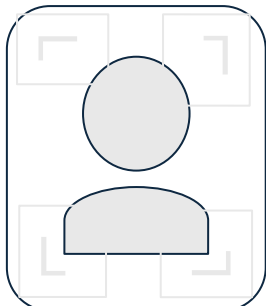
2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Mar 9	10 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30	11 Leadership Team mtg 5:30	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Chipozo Water Proj-Ph4 6:30	20	21	22 Chapter Mtg 4-5:30 421 Harrington St, Raleigh
23	24 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30	25 Leadership Team mtg 5:30	26	27	28	29
30	31 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30					

		Apr 1	2 Chipozo Water Proj-Ph4 6:30	3	4	5
6	7 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30	8 Leadership Team mtg 5:30	9	10	11 NC State Chapter Benefit Dinner, 6-8:30	12 STEM Reach for the Stars 9-12 NC State
13	14 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30	15	16 Chipozo Water Proj-Ph4 6:30	17	18	19 Shelly Lake Clean-up 9-12
20	21 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30	22 Leadership Team mtg 5:30	23	24	25	26
27	28 Int'l Project Mtg 5:30	29	30 Chipozo Water Proj-Ph4 6:30			

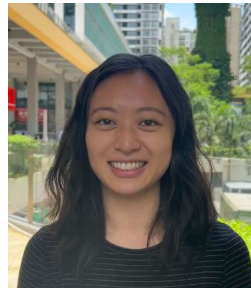
Meet the Officers



Stephen Kridel
President



open
Vice President



Christa Shreve
Secretary



Bruce Binney
Treasurer

Useful Resources

New Members: ewb.usa.rtp@gmail.com

Professional Community Outreach: open

International Projects: : bruce.binney@gmail.com (Bruce)

Local Projects Ideas/Interest: aadavido@gmail.com (Alan)

Community Volunteer and Professional Outreach: open

NC State Chapter Liaison: open



ewb.usa.rtp@gmail.com



<https://ewb-rtp.org>



<https://ewb-rtp.org/chaptercalendar/>

For past newsletters, check out the archive on our website [here](#) /Contact/Resource