

# THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HIGHWAY ENGINEERS, DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION

2019-20 EDITION #5

## President's Message

We find ourselves in very interesting and unusual times, the likes of which none of us have ever seen or experienced before. We are resilient if nothing else and will get through this as we all work together toward a common cause and goal. The leadership of our Section is faced with this as well, as we move to advise and protect (as we can) our membership and balance our needs with those for the common good, health and safety in our various roles as "stewards" of our transportation system.

Accordingly, we are bound to follow the guidance of our elected officials as it comes to the conduct of events. In many cases we are finding that our event venues cannot provide the function we have planned given restrictions on the size of groups permitted in a single place (and this number in itself has changed over a very short period of time). Since we must plan ahead, and the horizon for coming restrictions and guidelines continues to be a moving target of sorts, our plans are certainly in need of flexibility to account for what may occur. **Thus, we have made the difficult decision to postpone our April Section meeting on the side of caution.** It is our hope that we can reschedule the event, although we cannot predict or pinpoint exactly when the rescheduled date will be as of this writing.

We vow to continue to serve our members and deliver the planned meetings and events when conditions are amenable and safe to do so. Unfortunately, none of us can predict when that will be, so we ask that you bear with us on this. Our communications through our e-mails and website will continue to provide information that you will need. We appreciate your patience on this, and we stand with you with our hopes and prayers that things will get better.

It has been an honor to serve as the Section President this year.

Sincerely,

Alexa Egan Harper, PE  
President, ASHE Delaware Valley Section



## Meeting Schedule

### Dinner Meetings

As noted in President Harper's message at left, we have made the difficult decision to **postpone** our scheduled April 15 dinner meeting program and Technical Session (as we had to do with our March 18 dinner meeting). We will keep you advised of potential rescheduling time frames and dates.

At this writing other events as noted in this edition remain as currently scheduled. We will advise you of any changes in upcoming e-mail blasts and communications.

We apologize for any inconvenience but we trust you understand the necessity of our decisions in these difficult times.

### In This Issue

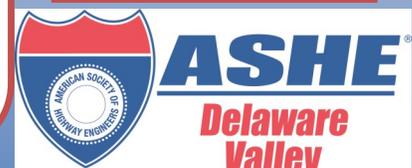
Slate of Section Officers - 2020-21 Season	2
Section Membership Update	2
Section Committees	3
Environmentally Speaking	4
Young Members Committee Happenings	4
Environmentally Speaking	4
PennDOT Breakfast Seminar	4
Joint Meeting with PSPE	4
Delco	
"Bring a Colleague, Make a Friend"	4
DVSP Sponsors, Program	5,6
Golf Outing	6
Younger Member Committee News	6
In Memoriam	7
Last TRANSPORTATION TIMES for the Season	7
Upcoming National Conferences	8
Contact Us	8

## Please Note...

ASHE is currently working to reschedule the joint Northeast/East Penn/DelVal March 12<sup>th</sup> District 4, 5 and 6 District Executives meeting. Once a date has been established, all who registered for the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be automatically registered for the new date. If you are unable to attend due to the date change, refunds will be issued at that time. The meeting sponsorships will be treated similarly.

Please be patient as finding a date all three DE's are available while they and us deal with the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic is not an easy task. More information will be shared when it is available.

**Regarding our March 18<sup>th</sup> Dinner meeting**, we plan to credit those registrations toward our next Dinner meeting. We will send additional information to the registrants when that meeting date is set. If you are unable to attend the meeting we will process refunds as needed. *Thank you for your understanding.*



## Adopted Slate of Officers for 2020-21 Season

In accordance with our Section Bylaws, Section President Alexa Egan Harper has appointed a Nominating Committee to develop and recommend a slate of Officers and Directors for the coming season. The Committee is tasked to provide its recommended slate at least 60 days before our Annual Membership meeting (April 15, our last meeting of this season). The Board-approved slate, provided below, was e-mailed to our members on February 21 and March 19. It must be published at least 30 days prior to the Annual Membership meeting, and this was done in the last edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES. Accordingly, the recommended slate is as follows:

### President

Drew Sirianni  
*Pennoni Associates*

### First Vice President

Corey Hull  
*JMT*

### Second Vice President

Nate Parrish  
*HNTB*

### Treasurer

Isaac Kessler  
*Remington & Vernick  
Engineers*

### Secretary

Amber Midgley  
*AECOM*

### Assistant Treasurer

Steve DiSciullo  
*Michael Baker International*

### Immediate Past President

Alexa Egan Harper  
*Gannett Fleming*

### Regional Director

John Caperilla  
*Cedarville Engineering*

### Executive Director

Bob Wright  
*McMahon Associates*

### Board of Directors

#### Term Expires 2021

Elaine Elbich  
*Penna. Dept. of  
Transportation*

#### Term Expires 2022

Peter Berthold  
*Penna. Dept. of  
Transportation*

#### Term Expires 2023

Jeff Given  
*Loftus Construction*

#### Phil Mandato

*Felix Mandato & Sons*

#### Bruce Masi

*Gannett Fleming*

#### David High

*Traffic Planning & Design*

#### Bob O'Neill

*Lotus Environmental*

#### Sarah McInnes

*Penna. Dept. of  
Transportation*

#### Mike Mogan

*Bergmann*

#### Matt Ward

*Urban Engineers*

#### John Quirus

*HDR*

#### Steve Windle

*McMahon Associates*

Nominations were to be closed at our March Section meeting. Since this meeting had to be cancelled given current events and situations, the closure and acceptance of the recommended slate was facilitated by e-mail and moved/seconded by the membership to be declared as elected accordingly. Thus, the noted Officers and Board members will be installed at the Annual Membership Meeting (to be scheduled).

We also welcome new Board members **Bob O'Neill** and **Steve Windle**.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee (Drew Sirianni (Chair), Bruce Masi, Jeff Obrecht, Rob Prophet and Matt Ward) for their development of this slate.

## Section Membership Update

We are proud to report that we currently have **382 (!)** Section members, making our Section one of the largest in the national ASHE organization. We have added 11 new members this season and a total of 54 since January 2019 to date. Thanks to those of you who continue to support our Section.

Membership renewals will be coming your way this Spring. Please be on the lookout for this and plan to renew promptly.

Also, if you know someone who is considering becoming an ASHE member, our Membership Application is available electronically, with payment available via PayPal.

### President

Alexa Egan Harper  
*Gannett Fleming*

### First Vice President

Drew Sirianni  
*Pennoni Associates*

### Second Vice President

Corey Hull  
*JMT*

### Treasurer

Isaac Kessler  
*Remington & Vernick  
Engineers*

### Secretary

Nate Parrish  
*HNTB*

### Immediate Past President

John Caperilla  
*Cedarville Engineering*

### Board of Directors

#### Term expires 2020

Steve DiSciullo  
*Michael Baker International*

#### Jeff Given

*Loftus Construction*

#### David High

*Traffic Planning & Design*

#### Mike Mogan

*Bergmann*

#### Term expires 2021

Elaine Elbich  
*Penna. Dept. of Transportation*

#### Phil Mandato

*Felix Mandato & Sons*

#### Amber Midgley

*AECOM*

#### Matt Ward

*Urban Engineers*

#### Term expires 2022

Peter Berthold  
*Penna. Dept. of Transportation*

#### Bruce Masi

*Gannett Fleming*

#### Sarah McInnes

*Penna. Dept. of Transportation*

#### John Quirus

*HDR*

### Regional Director

Rob Prophet  
*Traffic Planning & Design*

### Executive Director

Bob Wright  
*McMahon Associates*

## Section Committees/Chairs

In each edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES we list our Section Committees and chairs. We would like to recognize and thank all who participated in these committees this season. They are listed below:

### *Adopt A Highway*

**Amber Midgley, Chair**  
**Issac Kessler, Assistant Chair**  
Steve Natale, Nate Parrish, Steve Windle

### *ASHE/PennDOT Breakfast Meeting*

**Alexa Egan Harper, Chair**  
Peter Berthold, Elaine Elbich, Don Gusic, Mike Mogan,  
John Quirus, Curt Shugars

### *Auditing*

**Bruce Masi, Chair**  
Gene Cipriani, John Quirus, Matt Ward, Bob Wright

### *Dinner Meetings*

**Steve Windle, Chair**  
**Drew Sirianni, Assistant Chair**  
Steve DiSciullo, Dave High, Matt Ward

### *Environmental*

**Bob O'Neill, Chair**  
Susan Giannantonio, Colleen Meiswich, Jeff Obrecht,  
Robert Pope

### *50-50*

**Sean Pence, Kevin Rice, Co-Chairs**  
Steve DiSciullo, Corey Hull, Nate Parrish, Steve Windle

### *Golf*

**Mike Mogan, Chair**  
Jim Brady, Don Gusic, Phil Mandato, Bob O'Neill,  
Matt Ward

### *Hotel*

**Phil Mandato, Chair**  
**Bob Wright, Assistant Chair**  
Rob Prophet

### *Membership*

**Dave High, Chair**  
**Drew Sirianni, Assistant Chair**  
John Caperilla, Steve DiSciullo, Dave High, Isaac Kessler

### *Newsletter*

**Bob Wright, Chair**  
Alexa Egan Harper, Bruce Masi

### *Nominating*

**Drew Sirianni, Chair**  
Bruce Masi, Jeff Obrecht, Rob Prophet, Matt Ward

### *Program*

**Jeff Given, Alexa Egan Harper, Co-chairs**  
John Caperillia, Elaine Elbich, Bob Wright

### *Project of the Year*

**Nate Parrish, Chair**  
Rick Kemper, Sarah McInnes, John Quirus, Matt Reber,  
Kim Waters, Steve Windle, Chris Wright

### *Public Relations*

**Corey Hull, Chair**  
Elaine Elbich, Bob Wright

### *Scholarships*

**Sarah McInnes, Chair**  
Peter Berthold, Rick Kemper, Matt Reber, Kim Waters,  
Chris Wright

### *Social/Society Relations*

**Elaine Elbich, Chair**  
Cameron Connors, Corey Hull, Phil Mandato

### *Student Chapters*

**John Caperilla, Chair**  
Gene Cipriani, Kyle DiSessa, Mariah Kerr, Kevin Rice,  
Drew Sirianni, James Stanton

### *Technical Papers*

**Bruce Masi, Chair**  
Peter Berthold, Bob O'Neill, Matt Reber, Bob Wright

### *Technical Sessions*

**Steve DiSciullo, John Quirus, Co-chairs**  
**Bob O'Neill, Assistant Chair**  
Jeff Given, Corey Hull, Paul Linahan

### *Website*

**Peter Berthold, Chair**  
Amber Midgley, Drew Sirianni

### *Young Members*

**Steve DiSciullo, Chair**  
John Caperilla, Alexa Egan Harper, Amber Midgley,  
Mariah Kerr, Steve Natale, Sean Pence, Kevin Rice

*If you have an interest in being part of any Committee, please contact Section President Alexa Egan Harper (information is provided on page 8). Committee assignments, chairs and members will be reviewed and revised as necessary for the 2020-21 season this summer.*

*Please note that some committees have co-chairs to assist in the often-complicated tasks they must handle.*

## Environmentally Speaking...

Our Environmental Committee chair, **Bob O'Neill**, provides this regular feature in THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES on items of interest from the environmental side for our awareness and information.

**Don't be silica! Concrete dust is a health risk!** As if we don't have enough to worry about these days concerning what we inhale, chronic exposure to silica dust is a health hazard. This edition's feature is courtesy of Bob Pope, PennDOT District 6-0 Construction Unit.

Crystalline silica is a common mineral found in the earth. Sand, stone, concrete, and mortar all contain crystalline silica. Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) is very small particles or dust created when cutting, sawing, grinding, drilling, or crushing stone, rock, concrete, brick, block, or mortar. Workers who inhale these particles are at risk of developing silicosis (lung disease), lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), or kidney disease. Workers health can be protected with personal protective equipment or proper construction methods. PennDOT requires all projects let after March 1, 2018 are to incorporate the Standard Special Provision for RCS which includes an exposure control plan that has a description of tasks that involve exposure to RCS, a description of controls, practices, and respiratory protection required to limit exposure to RCS, a description of housekeeping measures that will limit exposure to RCS, and a description of procedures to limit access to RCS areas.

If you require further information on silica you can visit the OSHA website, [www.osha.gov/silica/](http://www.osha.gov/silica/), or the PennDOT Strike Off Letter 481-18-01, dated February 27, 2018.

### PennDOT Breakfast Seminar - Hold the Date

Our Section has conducted a half-day "breakfast meeting"/ seminar at PennDOT District 6-0 for several years and will continue the "tradition" this year. The seminar will be conducted on **Tuesday, May 19**.



More information will be provided in a separate event flyer, including the seminar topics and registration information.

As in the past there will be a limit on outside firm attendance to allow maximum participation by PennDOT and government agency employees.

PDH's will be available for the sessions presented at this Seminar.

**Please keep in mind for all events listed in this edition, the dates and venues are subject to change given restrictions that may be in place that are unforeseen at this time. Our Section will be communicating any changes, postponements and rescheduling to you as they are determined. We appreciate your patience and understanding on this.**

### Joint Meeting with PSPE Delco

As we have done for the past few years, we have planned to conduct a joint meeting with the Delaware County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE). This meeting has generally been held in the mid- to late-May timeframe.

We will be communicating with the Chapter on this in the coming weeks and will make a determination based on current guidance on large gatherings from State and local officials. Updated information and a meeting flyer, if the meeting is scheduled, will be provided through our e-mail communications and website. Please watch your e-mail for updates.

*Why Join?*  
**ASHE** Bring a Colleague  
**Make a Friend**

- Show why we are the Premier Networking Organization
- Invite co-workers to an event
- Share your enthusiasm for ASHE
- Make new personal and professional Friends

Communication • Education • Networking • Fellowship

Just \$70\*/yr or less to join  
[www.ashe.pro](http://www.ashe.pro)

\*varies by Section

<http://ashe.pro/membership/become-a-member/>



L&V ENGINEERING



## DVSP Program Sponsorship - Success Again... THANKS!

Our Section started the Delaware Valley Section Patron (DVSP) Program in the 2005-06 season to allow supporting firms to be recognized. As you may be aware, the proceeds of the DVSP go directly to support our Section's Scholarship Fund. For a \$200 fee for the season, sponsoring firms are cited for their support with their logos displayed on our website and in THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES. This also provides a "hot link" to access the firm's website directly from ours.

Firms which have committed for this season (32 total) are represented by their logos, shown on page 5 as well as on our website. **Many thanks to those of you who have participated in this program and helped support our Section!**

If you are not already a DVSP and would like to join or find out more about the program, please contact Bob Wright (information provided on page 8).

*We are pleased to note that five DVSP participants - **AECOM, McCormick Taylor, McMahon, TPD and Urban Engineers** - have been sponsors for all 15 years of the Program. Thank you for your long-time support!*

We will start Season 16 of DVSP in the fall and will be reaching out to all current sponsors about renewal in September.

**DVSP benefits  
(\$200 for the season)**

**Logo and Hotlink on  
Section Website  
(delvalley.ashe.pro)**

**Logo in THE  
TRANSPORTATION TIMES**

## Golf Outing Scheduled!

Our **25th (!) Annual Golf Outing** has been scheduled for **Monday, June 15**, at **Spring Ford Country Club** in Royersford (a new location for this year). The time will also be different from years past, with a shotgun start at **9:00 AM**. As usual, the proceeds of the outing will benefit our Section Scholarship Fund. Please mark your calendars and hold the date for this.

More information will be provided in upcoming e-mails and on our website. Sponsorships of various types will be available.

Please watch for the separate flyer on this for specifics and registration information. We hope to see you there!



## Young Members Committee Happenings

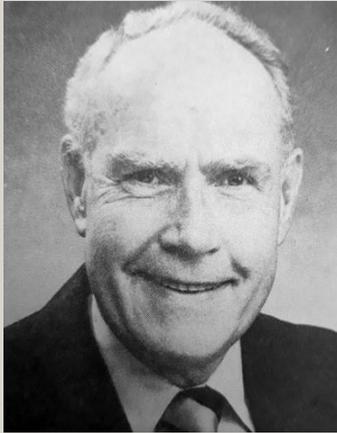
The Committee, in conjunction with ASCE Philadelphia Section's Younger Member Forum (YMF), will be following current guidance on gatherings and group activities as this develops and changes. The next regularly scheduled cleanup of the "co-adopted" segment of Bethlehem Pike in Ambler/Fort Washington would normally be in the Spring and had been anticipated to occur in April. A final decision on this was not available to be provided at the time this edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES went to print. Thus, any updates will be provided via e-mail and posted on our website.

A cleanup effort for the Fall will be considered by the Committee as well and any information on the date for this will be provided in future reports in this space, as well as through e-mails and event flyers. This effort has been well-received by businesses and residents along this corridor. Thanks to those from each of these groups for their participation.

Other activities and events are being planned and considered for this season, including our annual bowling event in April/May and a night bike ride on the Chester Valley Trail in June. These events will be subject to restrictions that may be imposed by state and local guidance on large gatherings. Please watch for more information in event flyers which will be available in upcoming e-mail blasts and communications.

## IN MEMORIAM – RICHARD A. “DICK” MULFORD, PE

We are sad to report that Richard A. Mulford of Malvern, a literal “fixture” in the local engineering community, passed away peacefully on February 19, 2020 at the age of 89. He was born in Philadelphia, the eldest son of William A. and Jeanne Roy Mulford.



Dick was not a civil engineer nor was he a member of our Section, but you may find his name familiar. He was a long-time member of several local technical societies including the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers and the Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia. At the latter, he took on the task of Executive Director following his retirement from the Philadelphia Electric Company in 1990. At the time, the Club had suffered both reputation and financial difficulties as older members started to become less involved, and in too many cases, pass on. The Executive Director position had been a paid staff member, but when he agreed to assume this spot, he stipulated that he would do so without remuneration as a full-time volunteer. He attacked the task vigorously and managed to turn the Club’s finances around, making some difficult decisions in the process (one of which was to sell the Club’s building to reduce assets and move to leased space).

With the assistance of two colleagues, who also decided to provide their services as volunteers, Dick managed to return the Club to financial stability and revitalized it mainly through recruitment of new membership. When he stepped down as Executive Director in

2007, he remained on staff to assist with the Club’s services, still as a volunteer. He was instrumental in the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council, which later became a committee of the Club, and remained active until health issues forced him to end his service to the Club in 2012.

Over the years Dick was strongly involved in efforts that provided scholarships to students in engineering programs in local schools, including the Philadelphia Engineering Foundation as well as statewide efforts. He, along with two colleagues, established a scholarship administered by PEF that continues to make awards to students during Engineers Week.

In 1952 Dick earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a certificate of distinction in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and continued on to obtain his Master’s Degree from Penn in 1957. He spent his entire career as an engineer with the Philadelphia Electric Company, retiring in 1990 after 38 years at the utility. He was the lead engineer and project manager in planning and building the Limerick Nuclear Power Plant.

Dick’s volunteer service extended outside of the engineering community as he assisted the sick and afflicted at Paoli Hospital for over 15 years. He committed over 13,000 hours to serving patients and blessing their lives with his warm smile and bright countenance. Doctors, nurses and hospital staff all knew him well.

Dick is survived by two sisters, Jeanne Fox and Carole Haller, and seven nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister, Florence Albrecht. Memorial donations may be made in his memory to the Church Farm School, CFS Development Office, 1001 E. Lincoln Highway, Exton, PA 19341.

### **Your Last TRANSPORTATION TIMES for This Season...**

*It’s hard to believe, and time indeed does fly, but our 2019-20 season will shortly be coming to a close. Our April Section Dinner meeting, scheduled to be the last one of this season, will be conducted at some point in the future when large gatherings will be once again able to be scheduled and held. At that point our new officers and Board members for the coming season will be publicly installed. We will keep you posted on when this will be happening.*

*We hope you’ve enjoyed THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES all season, and we hope you can manage to go without a new edition until August or so, when our production schedule will pick up once again and the first edition for 2020-21 will arrive in your e-mail box. We have certainly enjoyed putting each edition together, and we hope you have found it informative and enlightening, and properly keeping you “up to speed” on all things our Section has to offer.*

*We hope you enjoy your summer and we’ll see you again as it winds down and our season begins once again.*

## Contact Us

THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES, the newsletter of the Delaware Valley Section, is published and distributed to our members several times each season to advise and update all on current events and happenings in our Section.

If you have news items for future editions of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES, please feel free to contact us.

**ALEXA EGAN HARPER**  
Section President  
Gannett Fleming  
1010 Adams Avenue  
Audubon, PA 19401  
610-650-8101  
Direct 610-783-3783  
aharper@gfnet.com

**BOB WRIGHT**  
Editor/Executive Director  
McMahon Associates Inc.  
1515 Market Street  
Suite 1360  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
215-433-1660 x8006  
rwright@mcmahonassociates.com

## REMINDER

Deadline for copy/  
information for the next  
edition of THE  
TRANSPORTATION TIMES

August 21

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Please visit  
**delvalley.ashe.pro** for all  
the Section's current  
information you'll need to  
keep up-to-date on things.

## 2021 National Conference - Our Section A Co-Sponsor

As you may be aware, **our Section is a proud co-host of the ASHE National Conference in 2021!** Our counterparts at the East Penn and North East Penn Sections will share the sponsorship duties and responsibilities in this joint effort.

The intricate and detailed planning and preparation necessary for such an event has begun, and part of this process is to make opportunities available for our members to volunteer and be a part of the various activities and sessions that the Conference will offer.

We have provided information on the Conference on our website and flyers will be available on the tables at upcoming Dinner Meetings to outline the various volunteer opportunities and needs. The planning and organizing has begun, so if you are interested in helping the efforts, please respond to our National Conference e-mail (2021Conference@ashe.pro).

Future editions of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES will include updates and information on this as it becomes available. We hope you will be able to attend!



A Gateway to  
Transportation Adventures

**American Society of  
Highway Engineers**

June 9 - 13, 2021

## 2020 National Conference - Coming Up...

As of this printing, the 2020 National Conference remains as scheduled. Please check the ASHE website (www.ashe.pro) for updates and further information.



## American Society of Highway Engineers — Mission Statement

*Provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry to promote a safe, efficient and sustainable transportation system through education, innovation and fellowship*