



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



President Bob Wright, PE

We may be rounding the proverbial bend with winter (despite what Punxsutawney Phil may have indicated), and spring is at least in sight on the calendar. We are two months into 2015 and many of us may just be getting used to writing the correct year on our checks by now (for those of us who still write checks).

When last I wrote one of these, I continued on a theme of the “hook” that got us into our chosen field. There was one more such occurrence that stands out from what I recall from what I like to call my “misspent youth” (even though much of it wasn’t, it sounds better!). Surprisingly, given what I can remember lately (and it gets less and less every day), these recollections stand out very clearly, so I’m guessing they made a major impression on me.

I was fortunate enough to be able to visit the 1964-65 World’s Fair in New York City, and I was part of two trips there (one each year). I won’t get into specifics of age but let’s just leave it that I was still in single digits in that category for both visits (and apparently very impressionable). For those of my vintage, the photo of a postcard from the Fair accompanying this piece (a recreation, thanks to the New York Transit Museum) may spark some remembrances of this as well.



If you went to the Fair, you remember how technology was a major part of the exhibits – what things were going to be like in the far-off 1970’s, 1980’s, and the even-more-distant 21st Century. You rode in cars, pods, and other new-fangled methods through detailed exhibits, watching robots and simulations display what the future would bring and how this would advance from the past and present. Even though we hadn’t been to the moon yet, we saw mockups of space stations and planetary exploration. This surely got a number of us interested in engineering, or at least made it a fallback in case we couldn’t cut it as astronauts (something many boys my age thought about – and it was a “no girls allowed” club at the time). The memories were rekindled as the New York Transit Museum put together a photo and video

### 2014-15 DINNER MEETINGS

- March 18
- April 15

Costs will continue as previous years:

- \$35 - Advance Registration
- \$45 - After registration deadline/at door
- \$20 - Public Agency/Student

### 2014-15 TECHNICAL SESSIONS

- April 15

Costs will continue as previous years: FREE for Section Members, \$40 for non-members (subject to availability)

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## President's Message - Continued

display in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Fair, as well as other materials to cite the 75th anniversary of the 1939-40 version (and no, I wasn't there!). I made it a point to visit the exhibit this past summer and, surprisingly, I did recall a good deal of it accurately.

Of course, now that we're in the future that was described then, I'm sure I'm not alone in my disappointment that we're still driving around on terra firma. Cars aren't flying yet, but at least the self-driving car they said we would have by now may not be that far off (and you can get one that will parallel park itself, if that's any consolation, for those of you who may be challenged in that area). Yes, we do have video phones (but no one was predicting cell phones back then). No robot butler yet, but appliances can "talk" and the Roomba will go off on its own to clean your floor.

Continuing on our Committee coverage, we'll actually finish the list this time.

Some of you are aware that our Section was founded in January 1967, which means that our 50th Anniversary is coming up. We have started a Committee to develop ideas on how we should celebrate our golden anniversary. Jeff Given and I are leading the charge on this and several folks have already volunteered to help.

Despite what many folks believe, our newsletter, THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES, doesn't merely write itself. We have a Newsletter Committee, led by me, that helps put this together and gives it a good read-over once each edition is ready to go out the door just to make sure the Editor (also me) is getting everything correct. (And we have the generous services of Susan Buchanan, who is our creative wizard and has been quite successful in making it look like an engineer had nothing to do with it...)

Those of us who are engineers often think that Public Relations is an unnecessary evil. While there is likely a basis for this belief, we find that PR is something we do need to help us get the word out about what we do and particularly when we do something that we feel is noteworthy. Some examples of this are our Scholarship awards and Project of the Year citations. Joe Serbu leads this Committee and will be launching into high gear shortly to spread the good news on our Scholarship recipients (see the article on our Scholarship awards elsewhere in this edition).

I am pleased that our membership continues to grow and we keep managing to bring out crowds to our dinner meetings and Technical Sessions. It is nice to know that many of you value the networking portions of these meetings as much as you do as it gives you a chance to see and chat with colleagues and friends that you may not see all that regularly otherwise. We will have two more dinner meetings coming up (March and April) – hard to believe the season is going as quickly as it is – so if we haven't seen you at a meeting yet, you still have a couple of opportunities to join us. We'd be happy to have you there. And I think it's a safe bet you'll be glad you attended.

Respectfully,

Bob Wright, PE

President, ASHE Delaware Valley Section

# PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2015-16

In accordance with our Section Bylaws, Section President Bob Wright has appointed a Nominating Committee to develop and recommend a slate of Officers and Directors for the 2015-16 season. The Committee is tasked to provide its recommended slate at least 60 days before our Annual Membership meeting and has announced this at our February Section Dinner Meeting (February 18). This slate must be published at least 30 days prior to the Annual Membership meeting (our last meeting of the season, on April 15). Accordingly, the recommended slate is:

## OFFICERS

President	Jeff Given, Loftus Construction
First Vice President	Mark Kinnee, Urban Engineers
Second Vice President	Jack Mitchell, McMahon Associates
Secretary	John Caperilla, Borton-Lawson
Treasurer	Don Stark, Ammann & Whitney
Immediate Past President	Bob Wright, Urban Engineers

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Term Expires 2016

Pete Berthold, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Bill Laird, CHA  
Bruce Masi, Gannett Fleming  
Sarah McInnes, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

### Term Expires 2017

Stephanie Butler, McMahon Associates  
Isaac Kessler, AECOM  
Alexa Harper, Gannett Fleming  
Corey Hull, JMT

### Term Expires 2018

Elaine Elbich, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Phil Mandato, Felix Mandato & Sons  
Joe Serbu, Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission  
Curt Shugars, Pennoni Associates

## 2014-15 DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **BOB WRIGHT, PRESIDENT**

Urban Engineers Inc.

### **JEFF GIVEN, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Loftus Construction Inc.

### **MARK KINNEE, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Urban Engineers Inc.

### **DON STARK, TREASURER**

Ammann & Whitney Inc.

### **JACK MITCHELL, SECRETARY**

McMahon Associates Inc.

### **ROB PROPHET, REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Traffic Planning & Design Inc.

### **RICH PRENTICE, SECTION EXECUTIVE/PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

McMahon Associates Inc.

### **Term expires 2015**

**Elaine Elbich**, PennDOT

**Phil Mandato**, Felix Mandato & Sons Inc.

**Joe Serbu**, Penna. Turnpike Commission

**Curt Shugars**, Pennoni Associates Inc.

### **Term expires 2016**

**Pete Berthold**, PennDOT

**Bill Laird**, CHA

**Bruce Masi**, Gannett Fleming Inc.

**Sarah McInnes**, PennDOT

### **Term expires 2017**

**Stephanie Butler**, McMahon Associates Inc.

**John Caperilla**, Borton Lawson

**Alexa Harper**, Gannett Fleming Inc.

**Corey Hull**, JMT

## GOLF OUTING — IN THE WORKS!

Our 20th Annual Golf Outing is currently in the planning stages and will be conducted on Monday, June 22, once again at Blue Bell Country Club. Please keep some of those golf gifts you may have gotten for Christmas at the ready! More information and details will be forthcoming on this.

## YOUNG MEMBERS COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

The Committee joined forces with the Younger Member Forum of ASCE's Philadelphia Section to sponsor its third annual social/happy hour at the Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery at the King of Prussia Plaza on Thursday, December 11. About 40 attendees found their ways there to share some food, drink and camaraderie and get together to celebrate the Christmas/holiday season.

A joint happy hour with the Young Professionals in Transportation will be held on Wednesday, March 4 at the Great American Pub in Conshohocken.

## FULCRUM INTERNATIONAL JOB RESOURCE

The Fulcrum International (TFI) provides a variety of professional communications and human resources consulting services. Through its arrangement with ASHE National, it can help you locate staff through the TFI Job Bank and with recruitment. ASHE members receive a 10 PERCENT DISCOUNT on all job posts and advertisements. Searching for jobs and posting resumes is always FREE to registered members. Just register as an Employer or a Job Seeker to begin.

For more information on advertising contact TFI at 407-228-1747 or via e-mail at [Jacklyn.vanderpol@thefulcrumintl.com](mailto:Jacklyn.vanderpol@thefulcrumintl.com).

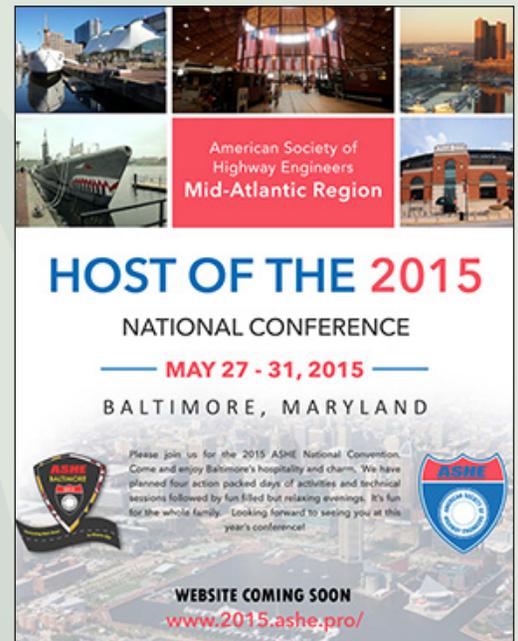
## 2014 PROJECT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

**The Project of the Year competition is now open for submissions.** The program will follow the two-category format, with separate awards for "large" and "small" projects. **The breakpoint between the two classifications will be determined once submissions have been made,** unlike in past years when this was divided at \$10 million, to allow more flexibility in the decision making.

Projects must have been completed in 2014, be located within the geographic boundaries of the Section, and nominated by an ASHE member in good standing. **Applications are due on March 2.**

As you may recall, we did not receive any submissions for this competition last year, and we would not like to repeat that! Thus, we are hoping that you will submit your pertinent projects for consideration this time around.

Please visit the Section website ([www.ashedv.org](http://www.ashedv.org)) for more information and applications.



A promotional poster for the ASHE Mid-Atlantic Region's role as the host of the 2015 National Conference. The poster features a collage of images at the top: a person in a hard hat, a large industrial structure, and a cityscape. Below the images, the text reads: "American Society of Highway Engineers Mid-Atlantic Region". The main title is "HOST OF THE 2015 NATIONAL CONFERENCE" in large, bold letters, followed by the dates "MAY 27 - 31, 2015" and the location "BALTIMORE, MARYLAND". A central message says: "Please join us for the 2015 ASHE National Convention. Come and enjoy Baltimore's hospitality and charm. We have planned four action packed days of activities and technical sessions followed by fun filled but relaxing evenings. It's fun for the whole family. Looking forward to seeing you at this year's conference!". Two ASHE logos are positioned on either side of this text. At the bottom, it says "WEBSITE COMING SOON" and provides the URL "www.2015.ashe.pro/".

## PennDOT Seminar Scheduled

The Section has conducted a half-day seminar at PennDOT District 6-0 for the past several years and will be doing it again this year. The seminar will be conducted on Thursday, May 21. More information will be included on a separate flyer to be sent on this event. Please mark your calendar and hold the date.

As in the past, there will be a limit of two attendees per firm to attend, to allow PennDOT employees to have priority in their attendance.

## Technical Sessions: Two Down, One To Go

Our second Technical Session of the season was held on February 18, prior to the February Section Meeting. This session, entitled "Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)", was well received and attended (and worth 2 PDH's!).

The last Technical Session scheduled for this season will be conducted on April 15. More information will be provided in the next edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES and in an event-specific flyer which will accompany the April meeting announcement.

As always, if you have any thoughts on topics or would like to present a session, please pass it along for our consideration as we begin to plan our program for next season.

# IN MEMORIAM



We are sad to report that Pasquale A. "Pat" Dougherty passed away on January 12 after a courageous battle with cancer.

As you may know, Pat was very involved in ASHE, both in our Section as well as at the National level. He served as National President in 1997-98 after several years of service on the National Board, which followed his service as President of the Delaware Valley Section in 1985-86. He was also a member of the Harrisburg Section after his relocation to the Harrisburg area in 2006. You may have seen Pat at one of our meetings, as he was a regular attendee (one might easily say a "fixture") even after his move to Harrisburg.

Pat enjoyed a successful career as a civil engineer specializing in transportation and traffic design. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Villanova University in 1968 and returned to Villanova for his Master's degree in 1975. He was proud to note he was a graduate of the now-closed St. Thomas More High School in West Philadelphia, where he grew up.

Pat was elected as the Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year in 2001, reflecting his activity in engineering societies and causes in our area, and was an active member of the Engineers Week Committee for many years. He was also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

At the time of his retirement in early 2014, he served as a Project Manager for Arora & Associates of Harrisburg. He worked for several different firms during his career, including Urban Engineers, McCormick Taylor Associates, Pickering Corts & Summerson, and Pennoni Associates. He had relocated to the Harrisburg area to manage the Mechanicsburg office of Urban and remained there until returning to the Delaware Valley following his retirement.

Pat is survived by his wife Elizabeth Dougherty (nee King), his children William, Marijo and Matthew, his grandson Eli Finn Dougherty, a brother, a sister, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by three sisters.



## SO YOU WANT TO BE ON A SECTION COMMITTEE?

Our Section Committees and Committee chairs are listed below. If you have an interest in being part of any Committee, please contact Section President Bob Wright (contact information provided on Page 8).

ASHE/PennDOT Breakfast Mtg .....	Joe Serbu, Curt Shugars	Program .....	Jeff Given, Rob Prophet
Auditing .....	Phil Mandato	Project of the Year .....	Bill Laird
Dinner Meetings .....	Corey Hull, Don Stark	Public Relations .....	Joe Serbu
50th Anniversary .....	Jeff Given, Bob Wright	Scholarships .....	Sarah McInnes
50/50 .....	Rich Prentice	Social/Society Relations .....	Elaine Elbich
Golf .....	Rob Prophet	Student Chapters .....	John Caperilla
Hotel .....	Phil Mandato	Technical Papers .....	Bruce Masi
Membership .....	John Caperilla	Technical Sessions .....	Jack Mitchell
Newsletter .....	Bob Wright	Website .....	Pete Berthold
Nominating .....	Jeff Given	Young Members .....	Alexa Harper

# SCHOLARSHIP SECTION

## DONNA PRENTICE MEMORIAL SECTION SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION CANDIDATES SELECTED, AWARDS MADE

The Section's Scholarship Program continues to be successful. The Program was started by the Section in 1972. Over the 40+ years of its existence, it has benefited numerous local college students, many of whom have gone on to become ASHE members after graduation. It was renamed in honor of the late Donna Prentice, wife of longtime Section member Dick Prentice, in 2003.

Several applications were received by the October 25 deadline. Our Scholarship Committee, chaired by Sarah McInnes, dutifully reviewed the volume of applications and supporting materials, and recommended five worthy candidates for awards. The recipients were notified in January and invited to attend our February Section meeting as our guests to be honored and presented with their checks.

We were pleased to have four of these students and one parent able to attend our February meeting, as shown in the photo to the right of this article.

The recipients of a combined \$6500 in Scholarship funds are:

- Robert Barnett, Widener University
- Cameron Connors, Widener University
- Robert King, Widener University
- Jonathan Mize, Villanova University
- Thomas Single, Widener University.

Our Section has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships since 1997 and is third among Sections in ASHE National in this area. We are proud to be able to support our local students and help them in their educational pursuits. Thanks to Sarah and members of our Scholarship Committee for another job well done this year! We encourage students to apply for this when the time comes next year, and we encourage parents of students to help us support their children's educations by encouraging them to apply!



*Photo by Andrew Ludewig, Urban Engineers*

## ROBERT SHAW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



*Photo by Andrew Ludewig, Urban Engineers*

As previously reported, our Section assisted the sponsors of the Robert Shaw Memorial Scholarship Program in the administration of this effort, which was established in memory of Mr. Shaw, and focused toward undergraduate students in civil engineering at Penn State. Mr. Shaw was a Section member who showed great commitment to the practice of Civil Engineering. This Scholarship is intended to grow the base of the civil engineering community at the university level, as well as to reward civil engineering students for their outstanding efforts.

This year, the initial awards of the Shaw Memorial Scholarship distributed a total of \$4500 to three students - Kathryn Bonanni, Braden Garrison and Michael Rampersaud. Unfortunately, distance and class/exam commitments prevented them from being able to attend our February meeting and accept their awards in person, but two parents were able to accept on their behalf. These awards are a result of the raising of funds through donations from members of the local engineering community and the family and friends of Mr. Shaw, as well as the former 202/309 Golf Outing, which will be renamed this year to honor Mr. Shaw. We were pleased to be able to have Mr. Shaw's wife and extended family at the February meeting (pictured above) to speak and make the awards.

# DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION PATRON PROGRAM





The Section started the Delaware Valley Section Patron (DVSP) Program in the 2005-06 season to allow supporting firms to be recognized. We are proud to note that 23 firms are participating in the Program so far this season. Many thanks to those of you who have signed up and helped support the Section's many activities. The proceeds of the DVSP go directly to support the Section's Scholarship Fund.

If you are not in this Program and would like to join, please contact Section President/Editor of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES Bob Wright (see contact information below).

## From the Editor

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

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

### **BOB WRIGHT, SECTION PRESIDENT/EDITOR**

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### **MISSION STATEMENT**

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

*Thanks to Susan Buchanan of Schnabel Engineering for help with the production of the newsletter.*