

THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HIGHWAY ENGINEERS, DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION

2022-23 EDITION #4



Meeting Schedule

Dinner Meetings

March 15

April 19

Please see the article on Dinner Meetings (below) for more information on our remaining program.

Technical Sessions

Technical Sessions will continue to be scheduled and will be conducted virtually. See the article below for more information on this.

President's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed the February dinner meeting at Maggiano's. ASHE Delaware Valley decided to venture outside our comfort zone and try a new Dinner Meeting location. We are currently reviewing the feedback received from the PDH forms for ways to improve upon the experience at Maggiano's as we are planning to return there for our March joint meeting with MASITE. I want to give a big thank you to our **Hotel Committee**, led by Bob Wright, for organizing and coordinating with Maggiano's to make our February meeting a success.



We will close out the Dinner Meeting season with our April Awards ceremony. The Project of the Year Committee, spearheaded by **Matt Ward** is busy reviewing submissions. **Isaac Kessler** is similarly leading the Nominating Committee and will be reviewing our inaugural Member and Young Member of the Year submissions. Thank you to those firms and individuals who have taken the time to put together these submissions and highlight the amazing things our membership is accomplishing.

Sincerely,

Nathan Parrish, PE
President, ASHE Delaware Valley Section

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Dinner Meetings – Still in Person ! Technical Sessions, Still Virtual...

For **Dinner Meetings**, as you are likely aware, we remain with our "normal" in-person events. Five well-attended and informative meetings have been conducted thus far, with two more coming to finish out the season. The meeting flyers will have the most up-to-date information on each event for your planning purposes. We have scheduled a good program of meeting topics for this season and will continue to provide professional development credit (PDH) as appropriate.

As you have seen (and may of you experienced), we tried a new venue in February at Maggiano's in King of Prussia, and this seemed to be welcome by many. While there are the unavoidable "bugs" and details that we need to work out with a new location, we are looking to return to Maggiano's for March and are investigating another new venue for April.

It was a nice change of scenery and menu at Maggiano's, and as you likely have noticed, came at a bit of a price increase compared to what we had charged for Dinner Meetings for those conducted previously this season. The impact of recent inflation and cost increases from providers had crept up a bit to the point at which our charge to attendees would not sufficiently or fully cover the costs of these events, regardless of the venue. Thus, we had to make the difficult decision to raise our Dinner Meeting cost accordingly.

...**Continued on page 3**

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2023-24 Season

It's hard to believe, but it's almost time to "change the guard" again. In accordance with our Section Bylaws, Section President Nate Parrish 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 19**, our last meeting of this season). The recommended slate is provided below, to comply with the requirement of our Section Bylaws that it be published at least 30 days prior to the Annual Membership meeting. Accordingly, the recommended slate is as shown below.

We welcome back previous members of the Board, Sarah McInnes and Drew Sirianni (Past President), after their short "sabbaticals", and thank current Board Members Corey Hull and Bob O'Neill, who will be ending their service with the current term.

	CURRENT (2022-23) Officers/Board	PROPOSED SLATE (2023-24)
President	Nate Parrish, <i>HNTB</i>	Isaac Kessler, <i>Remington & Vernick Engineers</i>
First Vice President	Isaac Kessler, <i>Remington & Vernick Engineers</i>	Amber Midgley, <i>AECOM</i>
Second Vice President	Amber Midgley, <i>AECOM</i>	Steve DiSciullo, <i>Michael Baker International</i>
Treasurer	Steve DiSciullo, <i>Michael Baker International</i>	Matt Ward, <i>TranSystems</i>
Secretary	Kevin Rice, <i>HNTB</i>	Kevin Rice, <i>HNTB</i>
Immediate Past President	Corey Hull*, <i>JMT</i>	Nate Parrish*, <i>HNTB</i>
Board of Directors	<i>Term expires 2023</i> Don Gusic, <i>CDM Smith</i> Mariah Kerr, <i>Traffic Planning & Design</i> Matt Ward, <i>TranSystems</i> Steve Windle, <i>McMahon Associates</i>	<i>Term expires 2024</i> Elaine Elbich*, <i>Pennsylvania Department of Transportation</i> Alexa Egan Harper*, <i>Gannett Fleming</i> Sarah McInnes, <i>Pennsylvania Department of Transportation</i> Kimberly Waters, <i>JMT</i>
	<i>Term expires 2024</i> Elaine Elbich*, <i>Pennsylvania Department of Transportation</i> Alexa Egan Harper*, <i>Gannett Fleming</i> Bob O'Neill, <i>NTM Engineering</i> Kimberly Waters, <i>JMT</i>	<i>Term expires 2025</i> Peter Berthold*, <i>Pennsylvania Department of Transportation</i> Bruce Masi*, <i>Gannett Fleming</i> Sean Pence, <i>Traffic Planning & Design</i> Juli Wolfe, <i>RETTEW</i>
	<i>Term expires 2025</i> Peter Berthold*, <i>Pennsylvania Department of Transportation</i> Bruce Masi*, <i>Gannett Fleming</i> Sean Pence, <i>Traffic Planning & Design</i> Juli Wolfe, <i>RETTEW</i>	<i>Term expires 2026</i> Don Gusic, <i>CDM Smith</i> Mariah Kerr, <i>Traffic Planning & Design</i> Drew Sirianni*, <i>Pennoni</i> Steve Windle, <i>McMahon</i>
Regional Director	John Caperilla*, <i>McTish, Kunkel & Associates</i>	John Caperilla*, <i>CDM Maguire Engineering</i>
Section Executive	Bob Wright*, <i>McMahon Associates</i>	Bob Wright*, <i>McMahon</i>

Per our Bylaws, nominations will remain open until at least 21 days prior to our Annual Membership meeting. Additional nominations may be submitted by correspondence to Section Secretary Kevin Rice prior to our March meeting, provided the nomination petition has been signed by at least 10 percent of the Section membership and the nominee has agreed to serve if elected. The new slate of Officers and Board members will be installed at our Annual Membership meeting (April 19).

Past Presidents are indicated with * in this list. We remain strong with this base of knowledge and experience represented on our Board (7 on our current Board, 8 on the proposed slate).

Thanks to the Nominating Committee - Isaac Kessler (Chair), Bruce Masi, Amber Midgley, Jeff Obrecht, Nate Parrish and Matt Ward - for their help with the development of this slate.

DVSP Program Sponsorship - Year XVIII*...!

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 are entirely dedicated to 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 each edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES. This also provides a “hot link” to access the firm’s website directly from ours.

As we continue through year 18* (in case you need some help with brushing up on your Roman numerals...) of this program, we have a total of 32 firms participating (the largest level of sponsors we have seen in this Program in the past couple of years). They are

represented by their logos, shown on page 5 as well as on our website. **Many thanks to those of you who have been part of this program and helped to 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 7).

DVSP benefits (\$200 for the season)

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

Logo in THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES

We are pleased to note that five DVSP participants - **AECOM, McCormick Taylor, McMahon, TPD and Urban Engineers** - have been sponsors for all 18 years of the Program. Thank you for your long-time support!

Section Committees/ Chairs

Adopt-A-Highway Amber Midgley	Nominating Isaac Kessler
ASHE/PennDOT Breakfast Meeting Alexa Egan Harper	Program Isaac Kessler Kim Waters
Auditing Rob Prophet	Project of the Year Matt Ward
Dinner Meetings Isaac Kessler Steve Windle	Public Relations Corey Hull
Environmental Bob O'Neill Juli Wolfe	Scholarships Bruce Masi
50/50 Sean Pence	Social/Society Relations Elaine Elbich
Golf Don Gusic	Student Chapters Mariah Kerr
Hotel Bob Wright	Technical Papers Bruce Masi
Membership Mariah Kerr	Technical Sessions Ben Deatrich Kevin Rice
Newsletter Bob Wright	Website Pete Berthold
	Young Members Sean Pence

If you have an interest in being part of any Committee, please contact Section President Nate Parrish (information is provided on page 7).

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

Dinner Meetings/Technical Sessions (Continued from page 1)

We fully understand that the magnitude of this cost increase, particularly in comparison to what was charged for January and previous meetings this season, was somewhat drastic and we are looking into ways that we can handle this beyond a mere passing-along of the increased cost to our membership. Unfortunately we do not have very many options to increase revenue to help subsidize the dinner cost outside of what is collected for the dinners. We hope you will understand the reality of this situation and we will continue to try and get the best “bang” for our members’ bucks in this regard.

Technical Sessions will continue to be virtual events for this season. There have been four already conducted this season on varying and interesting topics. They will continue to be scheduled, with different starting times (12 Noon or 4 PM), a format that has been popular and has worked successfully thus far this season. There are two more sessions potentially on the horizon for March and April at this point.

More information will be provided on coming Technical Sessions in upcoming editions of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES as well as in separate Session flyers and e-mails. We hope you will be able to take advantage of these informative sessions.



Young Members Committee Happenings - Celebrating 10 Years !

The Committee is proud to be celebrating ten years of existence and activity as a Section Committee this season! It seems like just yesterday that the founding members got things started with several social events and happy hours and this has grown to include the Adopt-A-Highway effort, bowling, bicycle rides, ice skating, and many more interesting sessions and happenings. These have often been scheduled as joint undertakings with the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Philadelphia Section's Younger Member Forum (YMF).

Speaking of joint opportunities, YMF and YMC once again "joined forces" at their Winter Mixer at the Manayunk Brewing Company on December 15. Roughly 40 members of these groups were in attendance to socialize and enjoy pre-holiday festivities.

Continuing on the theme of highlights of the Committee's activities over the past 10 years, started in the last report in THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES...

- 2014, YMC in conjunction with ASCE YMF, committed to the formal "adoption" of a segment of Bethlehem Pike in Fort Washington/Ambler and began to schedule twice-yearly cleanup events (followed by the "mandatory" happy/social hour). This effort has continued to be scheduled regularly each spring and fall.
- 2014, an evening of bowling and socializing was scheduled in May at Facenda Whitaker Lanes in East Norriton. The name of the establishment has changed (now Our Town Lanes), but the event continues to be conducted each spring (resumed again in 2022 after two years' off because of virus shutdowns).
- 2018, Alexa Egan Harper was nominated by our Section and selected by the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia to serve as the Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year.
- 2018 and 2019, YMC conducted Holiday Happy Hours in December (the photo at right is from the 2018 event at the Conshohocken Brewery in Bridgeport).
- 2021, following the 2019 bike ride along the Chester Valley Trail, another bike ride was held, this time along the Perkiomen Trail.
- 2021, Kevin Brown was co-sponsored by our Section and selected by the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia as the Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year.
- Events in 2020 and part of 2021 had to be curtailed because of virus-related shutdowns, but slowly resumed as restrictions were gradually eased.



More will be coming in the next edition. In the meantime, please watch for more information on planned and upcoming activities in event flyers which will be available in e-mail blasts and communications as well as on the tables at our Dinner Meetings.

Upcoming Events - Hold These Dates!

PennDOT Breakfast Seminar



BACK TO IN-PERSON!!

PennDOT District 6-0
Wednesday, May 17

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
8:00 AM to 12:30 PM (to be confirmed)

More information on registration will be coming soon in a separate flyer.

**27th Annual ASHE Delaware Valley Golf Outing
Bella Vista Golf Course
Monday, June 12**

As usual, the proceeds of the Outing will benefit our Section Scholarship Fund.





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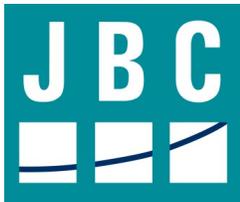
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National Conference - Atlanta

June 7– 11, 2023

The ASHE Georgia Section is honored to host the **2023 National Conference** at the **Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel and Convention Center**. The Georgia Section is excited to see you in Atlanta this summer for fellowship and learning opportunities within our industry.

This year the Georgia Section will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its Charter. The ATL Team is prepared to throw a memorable birthday bash to celebrate this milestone.

Please watch for updates and additional information in coming editions of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES or visit 2023conference.ashe.pro.



Environmentally Speaking...

Never Mind... This month's update on changes in the PADEP Chapter 105 wetland, stream and floodplain mitigation requirements is provided by **Donna Newell, PE** and **John "Ben" Reiman of NTM Engineering, Inc.**

On January 8, 2022, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) published notice of a final Technical Guidance Document (TGD), *Pennsylvania Function-Based Aquatic Resources Compensation Protocol*, that established procedures for determining the amount of compensatory wetland, floodplain and stream mitigation required for a project. The guidance was originally incorporated into the Chapter 105 Joint Permit Application and provided a methodology for calculating mitigation credits that could be purchased through the PADEP In-Lieu Fee (ILF) Program or a private mitigation bank. However, the application of the TGD, and the use of the state's In-Lieu Fee Program were not applicable for all permit applications, specifically those requiring federal review and authorization, because the ILF currently does not have federal approval.

On January 7, 2023, the **TGD was rescinded** via Public Notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. The notice indicated that the TGD was being rescinded so that DEP could reevaluate its effectiveness and review potential revisions through stakeholder outreach. "What now?" you may ask. The guidance we have received from both PADEP and the PennDOT on this point is that we should revert to the methodologies that we have used for quantifying wetland impacts and required mitigation that were used prior to the implementation of the TGD on March 1, 2022. That is, we would revert to the use of acre-for-acre or foot-for-foot wetland and/or stream mitigation impact calculations on a project-by-project basis. **Please note that the functional assessment requirements associated with the PADEP Level 2 Rapid Assessment Procedures (TGDs (310-2137-002, 310-2137-003, and 310-2137-004) remain in effect.** And, the project allowance for de minimus wetland impacts contained in various PADEP permitting documents remains in effect.

According to PADEP, *Our Program remains committed to [the] goal of having a unified standard for compensatory mitigation, a sensible and scientifically sound methodology that can be applied statewide for consistency and satisfies the need for both state and federal mitigation in a one-stop-shop manner for applicants, and a fee structure that will support a viable In-Lieu Fee (ILF) Program and satisfies federal requirements for ILF program approval.*

Questions regarding the rescission of this TGD can be directed to Andy Klinger, Chief, Wetlands, Encroachment and Training Division at anklinger@pa.gov or (717) 772-5975.



Example of Project-Specific, Owner Implemented Stream Mitigation - District 5-0 stream mitigation. Stream mitigation consisted of stabilization structures, including cross vanes, mudsills, and bank armoring along with riparian plantings on Pine Creek in Schuylkill County, PA. Associated with the SR 61 Section 11S Project, providing approximately 500 feet of stream mitigation/restoration. Thanks to Ben Reiman for this photo.

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.

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REMINDER

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

March 17

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.

Donna Prentice Memorial Scholarship Competition - Update, Winners Selected

Our Section's Scholarship Program has been benefitting local college students since 1972. We have had one of the largest such efforts among ASHE Sections nationally over the years. Many recipients have gone on to positions in the industry, both locally and out of the area, and a number have become members of ASHE after graduation.

Our Program had a total of \$12,000 in awards to 7 students last year. We are proud to be able to support our local future engineers and help them in their educational pursuits. The Scholarship Program has benefited numerous students over the years, and was renamed in honor of the late **Donna Prentice**, wife of long-time Section member Rich Prentice, in 2003.

Applications for this season's competition were due in December and we received a relatively low number of submissions compared to previous years. After review by Committee members, two students were recommended for awards. The students have been invited to attend our March Dinner Meeting to be cited and we will provide more information on the winners in the next edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES.

As in the past, the proceeds of our 26th Annual Golf Outing, conducted this past June, will go toward the Scholarship awards that will be made for this season. We have scheduled the 27th Annual Golf Outing, as reported elsewhere in this edition, and we are hopeful that you will be able to attend or sponsor (or both...) to help us raise funds for future Scholarship recipients. We appreciate being able to assist local students with this program to help with their educational pursuits and career goals.

Another Successful Engineers Week...

Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley was cited from Thursday, February 16 through Saturday, February 25. While nationally it is observed starting on February 18, locally we extended it two days to work for our events, and because we must like base 9 or something (?).

The events coordinated by the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee (DVEWC) were popular and successful, as usual. And, as we know, the completion of this year's events only kicks off the planning for next year's. DVEWC, a committee of the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, is always in need of volunteers to assist in many of the activities surrounding Engineers Week. DVEWC has a need for your talents and skills in several diverse areas. If you are interested in volunteering or would like information on volunteer opportunities, please visit our website at www.enrgclub.org.

Reminder - Membership Applications Are Now Electronic!

If you know someone who is considering becoming an ASHE member, our Membership Application can be downloaded and completed, then submitted via e-mail, with payment available via PayPal. Please visit our website (delvalley.ashe.pro) and click on the **Membership** tab for more information and details on this.



We hope this will make the process of becoming a member of our Section more efficient. Please feel free to share this information with anyone you know who may be interested in joining our Section.

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