

THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HIGHWAY ENGINEERS, DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION

2025-26 EDITION #2



President's Message

I want to extend my thanks to all of you for the tremendous turnout at our first dinner meeting. Seeing over 150 members and guests gather in person, which I'm proud to say was the largest turnout we've had post-pandemic, was a reminder of our Section's strength and commitment. The first two dinner meetings of this season were great successes, and I want to thank our presenters on the Girard Point Bridge Rehabilitation Project and the MacDade Boulevard Interchange Project. I enjoyed the technical deep dives and hearing about the unique challenges each project team faced.

ASHE is currently in the midst of our membership drive, and I encourage each of you to ask a colleague, friend, or coworker to join our Section. Our members receive benefits ranging from free PDHs to member-only events and pricing. To ensure our Section continues to thrive for years to come, it is especially important to reach out to engineers new to the industry and share with them the importance of building a professional network. Looking ahead to 2026, I am excited to announce the milestone of our Section's 60th anniversary. Our Board is already planning a celebratory event, and more details will follow.



On a broader scale, we cannot ignore the challenges unfolding in transportation funding at the federal and state levels. These are challenging times for agencies, consultants, and contractors alike, and the outcome in Harrisburg will matter greatly for all of us. Still, I am optimistic and together, we are ready to play a productive role in whatever comes next. Please stay informed, speak up when opportunities arise to advocate for infrastructure investment, and engage with your elected officials to share how these funding decisions impact not just the work we do, but our community.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Rice, PE
President, ASHE Delaware Valley Section



We are 60 - See below!!

Our Diamond Anniversary !

Some of you may be aware that our Section "got off the ground" in September 1966 as the tenth Section formed in the then-fledgling ASHE organization (we hold Charter #11). The first ASHE section, Harrisburg, started ten years before ours.

Thus, this means that this is our Section's **Diamond** anniversary season (60 years), leading up to the 60th anniversary of our founding in September 2026 (the same year our nation will celebrate its *semiquincentennial* (250th birthday), your word for today...). We are discussing a formal recognition and special event(s) to cite and celebrate this season and will keep you updated on what may be proposed along these lines.

And, as always, we thank our Section members for helping to make this all happen.

2025-26 Delaware Valley Section Officers and Board of Directors

Our Section Officers and Directors for the current season are listed below. Please thank these individuals for their volunteer service in the administration and operation of our Section.

We remain strong with a solid based of knowledge and experience on our Board, with eight Past Section Presidents being part of the group (indicated by * below).

President

Kevin Rice
HNTB

First Vice President

Don Gusic
CDM Smith

Second Vice President

Matt Ward
GFT

Treasurer

Sean Pence
TPD

Secretary

Steve Windle
Bowman

Immediate Past President

Amber Midgley *
Bentley Systems

Board of Directors

Term expires 2026

Isaac Kessler *
Remington & Vernick Engineers

Bruce Masi *
GFT

Mariah Shaw
TPD

Drew Sirianni *
HNTB

Term expires 2027

Elaine Elbich *
Pennsylvania Department of
Transportation

Caitlin Gallagher
HNTB

Susan Giannantonio
NTM Engineering

Sarah McInnes
Pennsylvania Department of
Transportation

Term expires 2028

Peter Berthold *
Pennsylvania Department of
Transportation

Alex Eadline
CDM Smith

Qiong Liu
Pennsylvania Department of
Transportation

Dustin Woywod
Michael Baker International

Regional Director

John Caperilla *
CDR Maguire

Section Executive

Bob Wright *
Bowman

Section Committees/ Chairs

**ASHE/PennDOT
Breakfast Meeting**
Alex Eadline

Auditing
Isaac Kessler

Dinner Meetings
Greg Scafonas, Drew
Sirianni, Co-Chairs

Educational
Susan Giannantonio

Environmental
Heather Coons

50-50
Greg Scafonas

Golf
Jim Brady

Hotel
Bob Wright
Jeff Hanna, Assistant Chair

Membership
Caitlin Gallagher

Newsletter
Bob Wright

Nominating
Don Gusic

Outreach
Peter Berthold, Steve Windle,
Co-Chairs

**Professional Society
Relations**
Elaine Elbich

Program
Qiong Liu

Project of the Year
Alex Eadline

Scholarship
Lili Bhatt
Bruce Masi, Assistant Chair

**Student and Young
Members**
Dustin Woywod

Technical Papers
Drew Sirianni

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.

Please feel free to share this information with anyone who may be interested in joining our Section. And thanks to those of you who continue to support our Section. With 341 members, we are one of the largest Sections in the ASHE national organization.



If you have an interest in being part of any Committee for the coming season, please contact Section President Kevin Rice (information is provided on page 8).

Young Members Committee Happenings

The fall cleanup activity of the semi-annual Adopt-A-Highway event on our “adopted” roadway, a two-mile segment of Bethlehem Pike in Fort Washington/Ambler, was conducted on October 11. The combined forces of our Young Members Committee and ASCE’s Younger Members Forum, 7 participants in total, pictured at right, ably handled the duties despite some rainy weather toward the latter half of the task. As usual, some

well-earned “R & R” followed at the Fireside Bar & Grille. Thanks to our volunteers, from left to right in the photo - Bryanna Hoisington (Temple University), Sharon Xiao (WSP), Samantha Shaw (BL Companies), Kerianne Chen (TPD), Zachary Hill (AEG), Dustin Woywod (Michael Baker), and Kayla Nelson (Schnabel Engineering).



A joint winter mixer, noted at left, has been scheduled by the combined YMC and ASCE YMF on December 2. We hope you will be able to attend.

As always, 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 upcoming Dinner Meetings.

ASCE/ASHE JOINT WINTER MIXER

FEELING FESTIVE?
PLEASE BRING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM
TO BE DONATED TO PHILABUNDANCE!

HOLIDAY RAFFLE
AUTOMATICALLY
ENTERED UPON
REGISTERING!

Join ASCE and ASHE for our festive annual evening of networking and socializing with fellow civil engineers! This is a great opportunity to connect with professionals from both societies, learn about each other's work, and have some fun. We look forward to seeing you there! Must be 21+ to purchase or consume alcohol.

Tuesday, December 2nd
6pm-9pm

Puddler's Kitchen & Tap
3 DeKalb St, Bridgeport, PA 19405

Questions? Contact Gina @
venutogina17@gmail.com

RSVP BY November 25th!

Mark Your Calendar - Engineers Week 2026

The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, through its Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee, will celebrate **Engineers Week 2026** on February 19-27. This will be the 74th year that Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley has been conducted.

Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley will officially begin with the **Engineers Week Opening Ceremony** at the Hilton Hotel Penns Landing on **Thursday, February 19**. All Engineers Week award and scholarship recipients will be cited at the Opening Ceremony. Our Section has established the ASHE/Engineers Week Scholarship which is awarded as part of this Ceremony, with the first recipient cited last year. We encourage students to apply for this and other scholarships that are available as part of Engineers Week.

Please visit the Engineers' Club website, www.engrclub.org, for more information on events, awards, scholarships and updates.

Section Awards - Nominations Coming Up...

The Delaware Valley Section is pleased to open nominations and being acceptance of applications for our **2026 Member of the Year and Young Member of the Year Awards**. These awards will recognize members for their contributions to the Highway Engineering profession within our Delaware Valley region. This will be the fourth season that these will be offered.

If you wish to nominate someone, please review the rules and criteria and complete the nomination form. This package will be e-mailed to all members separately and will be posted on our website.

All awards will be presented at our April Dinner Meeting/Annual Meeting. It is encouraged and preferred that candidates are able to be present at this to be honored accordingly. Nomination deadlines will be set and provided in the next edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES.

Also, please be aware that nominations for our **2025 Project of the Year** competition will be available shortly.

JOHN B. SEBER, SR.

We regret to advise that John (Jack) Seber passed away peacefully on September 21 at the age of 88. Mr. Seber was an active member of our Section and served in several capacities over the years including Section President (1989-90), Board member, and chair of our Career Awareness Committee for several years.

Mr. Seber was born in Ridley Park Hospital and grew up in Chester. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Villanova University. He held Professional Engineer licenses in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, a testament to his dedication and expertise in the field.

Mr. Seber devoted much of his career to public service through his work at PennDOT, followed by roles in private engineering firms including Conceptual Engineering and Czop Specter. He also served as Township Engineer for Limerick Township, where his work left a lasting impact on the community.

Mr. Seber is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Ruth (Walker) Seber; his children, John Seber Jr. and his wife Yvonne (Yerger), Maria (Seber) Blanco and her husband Ricardo Blanco, and Jennifer (Seber Garris) Wall and her husband David Wall. He was a proud grandfather of six. He is also remembered fondly by many cousins and extended family members.

A private graveside service was held for family and friends at Limerick Garden of Memories on October 3. A funeral mass and celebration of life will be held in the spring, with the date to be announced.

Mr. Seber will be remembered for his quiet strength, sharp mind, and unwavering commitment to his family and profession. His legacy lives on in the roads he helped build, the lives he touched, and the family he cherished.

**Dinner Meetings – Going “Hybrid” Again; Technical Sessions, Still Virtual...**

Our Section Dinner Meeting program has been well-received thus far this season, with two well-attended and interesting meetings. We are planning to continue the two-venue program this year, with our February meeting scheduled at Maggiano's, as well as another possible visit there as we look further ahead. Our two meetings thus far have been at the Crowne Plaza and we will continue to meet here for most of our remaining meeting program.

We are pleased that we will have a program of varied and interesting topics this season and look forward to continued success as the season progresses. We will continue to do what we can to get the maximum benefit for our meeting attendees at the optimal cost as we plan our upcoming meeting program.

Your feedback on the meeting locations, meals, etc. is certainly welcome both in the PDH questionnaire forms as well as direct comments to the Officers and Board. We are here to help make these experiences the best possible and would certainly like to hear from you if you have suggestions, input, etc.

Technical Sessions will continue to be virtual events. We have conducted three successful Sessions thus far this season with one scheduled for October 30 and others in the proverbial pipeline. As always, they will continue to offer the important and valuable PDH benefit.

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

May 27 – 31, 2026

2026 National Conference

Brought to you by the Chesapeake and Potomac Sections

Bethesda North Marriott Hotel

Website coming soon!



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Consulting

LOFTUS
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Delaware Valley Section Patrons (DVSP) 2025-26

Thanks for your support!

 **McCORMICK
TAYLOR**

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

Pennoni

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& VERNICK
ENGINEERS**

RETTEW
SM

RK&K
Engineers | Construction Managers | Planners | Scientists

 **Stantec**

stv

TRD

 **URBAN
ENGINEERS**

WRA

WSP

Your logo could be here!
(See page 6 for how to become a
Delaware Valley Section Patron.)

DVSP Program Sponsorship - Season 21 Underway

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 support our Section's Scholarship Fund. For a single 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.

At the start of our 21st season (which means we have reached legal drinking age in Pennsylvania...!), we thank the **26 firms** that have committed once again to participate in the program this season for their generosity and support. Their logos are shown on page 5 as well as on our website.

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).

**DVSP benefits
(\$300 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, Bowman (formerly McMahon), McCormick Taylor, TPD and Urban Engineers** - have been sponsors for all 21 years of the Program. Thank you for your long-time support!*

And Introducing our Agency Partners...

Our Section has always been fortunate to enjoy the consistent and strong support of governmental agencies. These are not for-profit concerns, as our consultants and contractors are, thus they are not able to participate in other means of recognition such as our DVSP Program. Indeed, however, they have consistently there with Board and Section committee representation and volunteer events. PennDOT District 6 in particular has worked with us to produce the annual District workshop/breakfast seminar for many years. The agencies have additionally been a great resource for program speakers and presenters over the years.



To allow us to cite their contributions and great support, we have established our Agency Partner Program (and we're in search of a catchy name for it - DVSP is already taken... - so anyone out there is welcome to offer ideas), which will include their logos on our website and in THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES to recognize and highlight their contributions and volunteer service.

We welcome our two initial participants in this effort, **PennDOT and the Pennsylvania Turnpike**, and would encourage you to thank the staffs of these agencies when you see them for their generous support. Thanks again to each for their assistance.

We welcome other agencies to be part of this program as well. Please reach out to President Kevin Rice or Section Executive/Editor Bob Wright (contact information is provided on page 8)

Members in Transportation/Transition

Gunner Headed for the "Exit Ramp"

We have been advised that **Tim Gunner**, long-time staff member and most recently Project Delivery Executive at AECOM, has announced his retirement after 36 years in the local engineering industry. Tim was active in our Section for many years and served as Newsletter Editor as well. We wish Tim luck in his well-earned retirement.

Shaw Honored by GVFTMA "Forty Under Forty"

We congratulate Section Director **Mariah Shaw** on her citation as one of the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association's (GVFTMA) 2025 Top TDM Professionals Under 40 at its event in September. Mariah is third from the left in the photo at right, sharing the stage with colleagues and fellow awardees from TPD.



Environmentally Speaking...

The Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals (PAEP) turns 40!!!

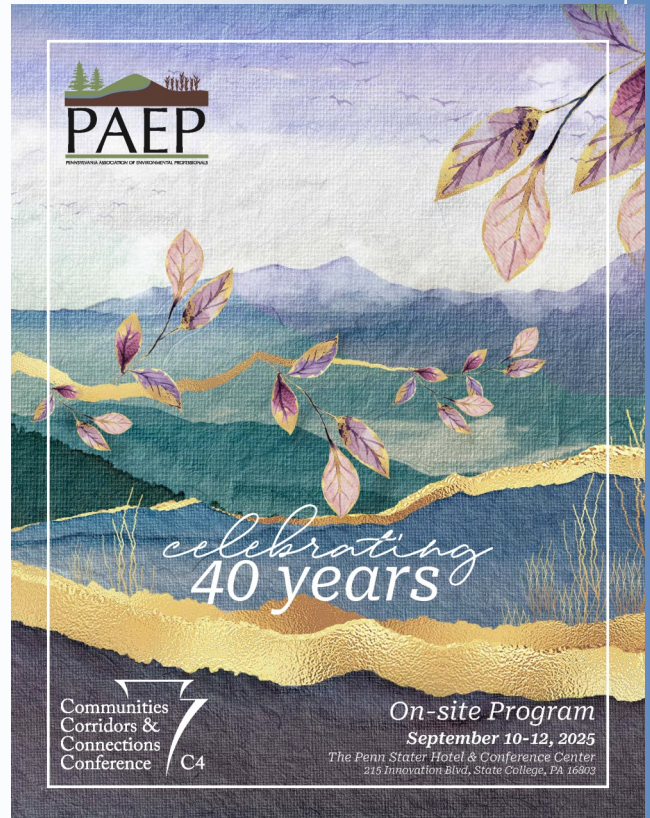
And what better way to celebrate than at the 2025 PAEP Annual Conference! Held from September 10-12 in State College, the PAEP Annual Conference offered the opportunity to exchange ideas and information, analyze current trends to help expand knowledge bases, make new connections, and stay informed and prepared for the future. In the ever-changing environmental regulatory climate, the conference provided a one-stop shop on a diverse range of topics that environmental professionals face each day.

Informational sessions included PADEP Chapter 105 Waterways and Wetlands Program updates, which provided an overview of upcoming changes to PASGPG7, discussed the 105 Regulation Revision Reboot, offered insight to the Streamlining Permits for Economic Expansion and Development (SPEED) Program, and encouraged participation in the PA Clean Water Academy; and a separate presentation on Environmental Justice in the Commonwealth. Representatives from PennDOT BPDD discussed changes to Drainage Design and Related Procedures (DM Part 2 – Highway Design, Chapter 10); cultural resources coordination with the National Parks Service; and changes in the reviews of T&E species, specifically with regard to bats from a PennDOT project perspective. USACE provided insight into recent federal regulatory updates with a focus on the latest developments with the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act listings.

The PA Turnpike shared about their project to reestablish pollinator habitat along its 565 miles of vegetated ROW in support of an effort to become America's first Sustainable Superhighway by 2040. Consultants provided information on how to navigate the recent changes in the NEPA regulations; shared aquatic resource mitigation that was conducted for unavoidable impacts to wetlands and streams as a result of a transportation improvement project; instructed on how to identify and optimize appropriate and efficient bat survey methods; discussed the role of renewables in the North American energy market; and presented on the use of vulnerability assessments as a tool to a more coordinated and data-informed approach to hazard mitigation. Other sessions included an inside look at how the removal of aquatic barriers, such as redundant dams, can help to revive rivers and offer community benefits; Stage Zero Stream Restoration; and an overview of the draft MS4 General Permit, released in January 2025, and how it incentivizes intergovernmental collaboration.

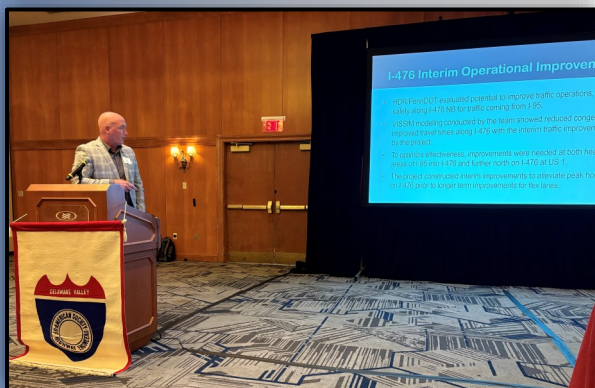
Want to learn more or know someone who could benefit from being a member of PAEP? Visit the website and reach out today!

[Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals - Home](#)



Photos from Recent Meetings

Our October meeting presentation on the I-476 MacDade Boulevard Interchange Reconfiguration/Safety Improvements (SR 2006 Section 476), our 2024 Project of the Year, \$20 Million/Under category, conducted by Kristin Caparra (PennDOT/AECOM, in photo at right), Bill Laird (HDR, in photo at left), and John Baumgardner (HDR).



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

December 5

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 - Now Open for Submissions

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 gone on in their professional careers to become members of ASHE.

Last season, interest continued to be "healthy", and the Scholarship Committee received a strong response, making 12 awards with a total value of \$17,000. We are hopeful that we will get similar interest and more applications this season. We are proud to be able to support our local future engineers and help them in their educational pursuits. The Scholarship Program has assisted 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.

The competition is now open, and applications are due by **November 1**. Please check our website for more information on this, as well as the application form (delvalley.ashe.pro). We strongly encourage students to apply (and ask parents to let their college-age children know about this opportunity!).

Additionally, repeating what was begun last year, we will be funding a Student Scholarship that will be awarded as part of the Delaware Valley Engineers Week celebration (see page 3). More information is available on the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia website (www.engrclub.org).

At our 29th Annual Golf Outing, conducted on May 19, the net proceeds realized, nearly \$10,000, will be directed to the Scholarship Fund as in years past.

Successful Scholarship candidates will be notified in January and invited to attend our February Section Meeting to be honored in person. We look forward to a strong response from local students for this program.

Future City - Help Needed...

The Future City Competition is a project-based learning program for 6th through 8th grade students that introduces them to the principles of engineering while allowing them to use teamwork and creativity to solve problems that face the world. The program helps advance STEM learning in Middle Schools in our region and encourages students to consider careers in engineering. In recent years the regional competition has grown to include over 500 participating students and teachers in the Philadelphia area. This is a great way to give back to the community and share your experience with the next generation of engineers!



Mentors needed- If you have any time available to share your experience with students who are learning about what engineers and planners do, please consider volunteering. Mentors work with a student team to advise them as they build their model and prepare for the competition.

Flexible time commitment - The schools in need of mentors could use any help you can offer. There are plenty of ways to help including Zoom/Teams or corresponding via email.

Schedule - Schools are currently working toward their first deliverables in mid-December. The competition will be held in on January 26, 2026 at Archbishop Carroll High School.

Please visit futurecityphilly.org for more information.

Our Section offers special awards and can use help with judging if you would prefer helping that way.

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