



PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS Web site: http://www.asce-philly.org National ASCE Central Number 1-800-548-ASCE • Toll Free

Vol. 92-1

# The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE $O {\cal U} {\cal P} \, 107^{th} \,\, Y {\cal C} {\cal A} {\cal P}$

Summer 2019

# **SECTION COMMITTEES**

Our Section runs very well and it is mainly a result of the dedication and service of our many volunteers, both our Officers and Board Members as well as our various Committees. While many of you know the former group well, you may not be all that aware of the latter. Our Committees address many of our regular and ongoing issues and keep our Section vibrant and in the forefront of service to our membership. A list of our current Committees is provided below.

Initial efforts are beginning over the summer to get things going for the coming season, so if you have a particular interest in helping the Section as a Committee volunteer, or would like to find out more about a particular Committee, please reach out to us at **info@asce-philly.org** or through our Section Secretary, **Mohamed Elghawy** (contact information is provided on page 2).

We will provide updates on our Committees each month in *THE NEWS* as the season progresses for your information and use.

Audit Awards Budget and Finance Capital Improvement Civil Engineers in Government Communications **Continuing Education** Humphrey Fund Membership Mural Nominating (for Board Positions) Professional Licensure Program Scholarship Society Relations Subsidiary Groups Spring Social

# RETURNING FOR REAL IN SEPTEMBER...

This is our usual abbreviated summertime "teaser" edition of *THE NEWS*. While we are supposed to be off for the summer, we know our loyal readers are always in search of information, and in our attempt to accommodate them, we take a break from our break and crank out this smaller-than-normal issue for your enjoyment and reading pleasure.

Anyhow, you're welcome, and we'll return to the hammock now that this issue is out, with the promise (or warning...?) to be back with our usual full issues starting in mid-September or so. We hope you enjoy your summer!

# **SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2019-20**

The Section Meeting program for the upcoming season is in the very preliminary stages and our meeting program committee is busy lining up speakers and topics for what we hope will be an interesting and informative series of meetings. The dates that have been finalized with venues have been provided below for your planning purposes. We would suggest that you use this to mark your calendar at this time and hold the dates.

In coming issues of *THE NEWS*, this information will be "fine-tuned" to provide updates as they are available. We also suggest you visit the Section website for the latest changes in our meeting program. As we have done, each month's edition of *THE NEWS* will feature detailed information on that month's meeting along with as much information as is available for the following month's meeting, and the "look-ahead" schedule will show details that are available at that time for your advance awareness. E-mail blasts will be sent out on a regular basis to advise and remind of upcoming events and registration deadlines.

We also note the advantage of joint meetings with other societies and will schedule these as we can.

#### 2019

**October 10** – Maggiano's, Center City

November 14 – Maggiano's, Center City

**December** – to be determined, "multi-society" joint meeting with Engineers' Club of Philadelphia

# 2020

January 15 (Wednesday) – joint meeting with American Society of Highway Engineers, Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge February – to be determined March 12 – Maggiano's, Center City April 9 – to be determined May – Spring Social, to be determined

# **N-ASCE**\*

## WHAT IS WORKPLACE PROFESSIONALISM?

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines professionalism as "the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person". Professionalism doesn't just apply to occupations that require advanced degrees, like doctors. Most people would prefer to work in a professional environment and with professional co-workers.

What does it mean to demonstrate workplace professionalism? What does unprofessional workplace behavior look like?

While it may be hard to define in a simple sentence, we know it when we see it. And we sure as heck know it when it's missing, and you can even lose your job for not having it.

Professionalism is more than competence. Sure, professionals are darn good at whatever they do and they take their jobs seriously. When we visit a doctor, hail a cab, go out to dinner, or hire an electrician we always hope that we will get a "pro", or someone that's well trained, has experience, and won't screw up. However, professionalism is way more than being good at what you do. Competence is a minimum standard – the rest of what makes up workplace professionalism is all about behavior. It's not just what you know – it's how you do your job, how you behave, and how you come across.

In addition to competence, here are 11 more characteristics that define workplace professionalism:

1. **Keeping commitments.** Professionals do what they say they are going to do and they don't over promise. They are dependable, they keep their appointments, and they don't have to be reminded over and over when something is due.

2. **Language.** They don't swear. They also don't butcher their native language, they speak up in order to be heard, and they use their "indoor voice" when working around others.

3. **Leave the drama at home.** It's impossible to completely separate our work lives from our personal lives. However, bringing too much drama into the workplace can cross the line and come across as unprofessional.

4. **Appearance.** Clothes, hairstyle, hygiene, and *Continued on Page 2* 

#### **YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS**

Sean McCreesh, Forum Editor Eammon Farley, Forum President 2018-19 Michael Baker International eammon.farley@mbakerintl.com

# K-12 OUTREACH HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

May 14

YMF was happy to return to **Hillcrest Elementary School** for the second year in a row. Volunteers **Caroline Voigtsberger, CJ Medora, Charlie Mumford, Alex Hazuda,** and **Christopher Bieter** spoke with over 100 students in the 5th grade class to discuss the field of Civil Engineering and how they can continue to get involved with STEM when they get to middle school.

#### WARREN G. HARDING MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### May 31

YMF's K-12 Outreach closed out its school year with a visit to **Warren G. Harding Middle School**. Volunteers **Caroline Voigtsberger** and **Jake Sheridan** met with 18 8th grade students to talk about the field of Civil Engineering and how to maintain an interest in math and science throughout high school.

At each event, the presentation concluded with the students challenged to design, build, and race wind powered cars using only Life Saver candies, straws, paper clips, and paper.

If you are interested in volunteering at similar events, please contact YMF K-12 outreach at ASCEPhilaYMFK12@gmail.com to get on our volunteer list!

# 2019 Cive Club Balsa Wood Bridge Testing & Awards Ceremony

#### May 20

The Chester A. Arthur Civil Engineering Club finished the school year with the 7th Annual



#### **N-ASCE\*** Continued from Page 1

weight – they all matter, and when combined, create a professional or unprofessional appearance.

5. Lying, cheating, stealing and other ethical lapses.

6. **Bullying.** No one likes a bully. Sure, they may get a few laughs – but usually at someone else's expense, and everyone wonders when they may be next.

7. **Gossiping.** When we hear workplace gossip, it's often hard not to listen. However, similar to bullying, when you hear a gossip talking about your co-worker, you can assume the gossip will be talking about you next as soon as you're not around.

8. **Attitude.** People enjoy working with co-workers that are always upbeat, positive, and ener**Bridge Testing & Awards Ceremony**. Students, faculty, parents and YMF members were in attendance to celebrate the year and view the competition. This year, two separate records were set for bridge designs! One student set the record for the most mass ever held by a balsa wood bridge (26.7 kg!) and another student set the record for the most efficient bridge rating (896). The YMF would like to thank everyone who made this year a success. A special thank you is reserved for **Michael Franklin**, who has run the Club at the Arthur School for the past 7 years. We wish him all the best as he moves on to a new teaching position and thank him for the solid foundation he left for us to build on. Thanks, Mike!

#### **CRITICAL ISSUES SEMINAR**

#### May 21

YMF held its annual Critical Issues Seminar to discuss current issues in the field of Civil Engineering. This year's event was a panel discussion on Connected and Autonomous Vehicles facilitated by the YMF Professional Development Chair, Kevin Walsh, at Tir Na Nog bar in Center City. Panelists for the discussion were: Mark Kopko, Special Advisor - Transformational Technology, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation; Erick Guerra, Professor of City and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania, and; Brett Fusco, Manager of Long-Range Planning, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). Guests enjoyed hearing from the panelists on topics of operations, safety, planning, funding, and policy as related to connected and autonomous vehicles. The discussion ended with a Q&A session with the audience. Afterward, YMF members and guests in attendance enjoyed the complimentary appetizers and snacks as they networked.

# SCHUYLKILL RIVER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TRAIL CLEANUP

#### May 25

YMF Board members Kevin Brown, Joe Natale, and CJ Medora, along with 5 other volunteers, and Blaise Syrnick from the Schuylkill River Development Corporation, spent the afternoon performing trail maintenance, repairs, clearing and grubbing, and cleanup of the Bartram's Mile section of the Schuylkill River

getic. "Debbie Downers" can drain the positive energy from a workplace.

9. **Accountability.** Professionals admit it when they are wrong, own up to their mistakes, don't point fingers at others, and don't make lame excuses.

10. **Emotions.** Is it OK to show emotions at work? Of course. But professionals don't lose their tempers, they don't lose their composure, and they stay cool under pressure.

11. **Dirty jokes and sexual innuendo.** If it's something that would earn an R rating for a movie, then it doesn't belong in the workplace. Professionals don't embarrass or harass their co-workers.

Thanks to **about.com** for this information.

\*N-ASCE - Not always something concerning Engineering...



Trail. After a close battle with a snake, and lots of branches, the group took in some welldeserved sights of the new trail construction along the Trail. Look for the next community service event later this summer, as well as other volunteer opportunities with the YMF Outreach Committee!

# BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BRIDGE TOUR AND PRESENTATION

#### June 4

YMF conducted a walking tour of the Ben Franklin Bridge. DRPA Engineers **Mike Venuto** and **Mike Howard** led a presentation on the history of the planning, design, and construction of the Bridge. The tour then started on the new pedestrian and bicycle ramp for the south walkway that had just opened earlier that morning. The tour continued onto the Bridge and into an exclusive room within one of the towers. The tour concluded with a walk over the Bridge into Philadelphia and refreshments at La Peg.

#### **Contact Us:**

President—Kazi M. Hassan, PE Highway Group Leader Pennoni Associates, Inc. 1900 Market Street, Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-254-7720 kazihassan@pennoni.com

Secretary—Mohamed Elghawy, PE Project Engineer Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. Sanatoga Commons 2500 E. High Street, Suite 650 Pottstown, PA 19464 610-326-3100 melghawy@trafficpd.com

#### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Editor of *THE NEWS* Robert Wright Section Outreach Coordinator Mohamed Elghawy Staff Writers Assunta Daprano, Lindsay Chateauvert SEND COPY TO: ASCE, c/o Urban Engineers, Inc. 530 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

> COPY DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER 2019 ISSUE SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

#### Summer 2019

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS UPDATE

As you may be aware, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists in many states are required to obtain continued professional development (CPD) credit to renew their licenses in many states. Locally, this includes Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

If you glance at your PA license you will hopefully not be surprised or shocked to see that it expires on September 30. Thus, you may find that those 24 PDH's you'll need to attest you have for renewal might be something you need to actually get, and maybe more quickly than you might have planned.

Our Section's meeting program is generally able to count toward your continuing education requirement (meetings that the Section believes would not count will be prefaced as such in the meeting announcement) for many states. We also offer various Technical Group and YMF meetings and events that offer PDH credit. We continue to have a verification program in place to help our members obtain and track PDH's. Over a two-year licensure period, our Section meeting program alone could amount to half of what one needs to meet many states' requirements.

If you haven't taken full advantage of what our Section offers, the reality is that we have little to no Section activity over the summer, so you may need to pick up those PDH's in another way. Fortunately ASCE National offers free on-demand webinars and coursework that will get you up to 10 PDH's (this level is new this year, double from that previously available) as a benefit of your membership. Information on this is available in the Membership section of the ASCE National website (www.asce.org). There are other offerings that are available from National at cost to help you pick up what you may need as well.

If you don't yet have the letters PE after your name and are thinking about going for it, please check ASCE's live exam review courses. This allows one to interact with instructors during live webinars and access free on-demand recordings 24/7 until the exam date. The courses reference codes specified by NCEES for the exam. You can feel confident with the most comprehensive and convenient way to prepare for and pass the exam. More information is available on the ASCE National website.

As we know, a Professional Engineer's license proves you can perform and oversee Engineering work independently – known as being "in responsible charge." In a post to ASCE's **Career by Design**, Senior Structural Engineer **Cliff Jones** of Jensen Hughes in Portland, Oregon, shares the top six benefits of having a PE:

• **Credibility:** The PE designation is a highly respected, broadly recognized designation for Engineering competence and ability. Being able to use "PE" on your business card, in your email signature and in your LinkedIn profile signals your credibility as an Engineer.

• Authority: In many jurisdictions, only a licensed PE can sign and seal an Engineering work product, including drawings, reports, calculations and specifications.

• Advancement: Your career progression may require a PE so you can be in responsible charge of a project and to advance within many firms.

• **Opportunities:** Licensure will make you eligible for a wider range of employment opportunities, allow you to serve in technical advisory roles such as on committees, let you run your own Engineering business and even perform certain specialized work like serving as an expert witness.

• **Improved earning potential:** If you want to be paid more, having a PE can help. As seen in the 2018 ASCE Salary Report, Licensed Engineers make more on average than their non-licensed counterparts.

• Job security: In an ever-changing job market, a license can improve your security and stability by differentiating you from peers. Licensure typically makes you more desirable for retention because you can be in responsible charge of work, and in most cases, you can bill time at a higher rate.

## SPONSORS IN THE NEWS

#### TPD PRESIDENT WINS ADVOCACY AWARD, FIRM RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC) named Kevin Johnson, PE, President of Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. (TPD), as the recipient of its Advocacy Award. This award was presented to Mr. Johnson at the Association's Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Luncheon on June 19. This event celebrates TMACC's successes over the past year and honor their members who have gone above and beyond to "live" their mission. Specifically, the award for Advocacy is presented to an individual or group that displays institutional leadership working towards advancing TMACC's priorities, including improving air quality, congestion mitigation and enhancing access to transportation.

Mr. Johnson's areas of expertise are in Transportation Engineering and Design, Transportation Planning, Environmental Analyses, and providing expert witness services for accident cases. Foundationally, he believes his duty as an Engineer is to be involved in the public decision-making process in order to raise awareness of the need to address the rapidly decaying state of our transportation infrastructure. Over the past few years, he has worked tirelessly for the passage of Acts 88 and 89 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He believes that as Engineers, he and his peers are trained to identify and solve problems, so he has dedicated his career to educating the public and elected officials at the local, state and national levels on transportation issues and why increased funding is needed.

Mr. Johnson's efforts and leadership, in part, have also brought recent recognition to the firm. Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association (GVF) named TPD as its Engineering Leadership Award winner at its Annual Meeting

# SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2019-20 SEASON

The slate of Section officers and Board members was adopted by the Board at its March meeting and these individuals were officially inducted and sworn in at the Spring Social. They are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Kazi Hassan, Pennoni

*PRESIDENT ELECT:* Jennifer Reigle, Pennoni

VICE PRESIDENT: Briana Earle, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services SECRETARY: Mohamed Elghawy, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. [completing remaining term of Briana Earle]

TREASURER: Joseph Natale, DVRPC MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Andrew

Bechtel, College of New Jersey

#### DIRECTORS:

Kevin Brown, Urban Engineers, Inc., 2019-21

Michael DeVuono, Arcadis, 2019-21

Gregory Dunn, WSP, 2019-20 [completing remaining term of Joseph Natale]

Spencer Finch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services, 2018-20

**Tania O'Kane**, 2019-21

Nha Truong, Ernst & Young, 2018-20

#### PAST PRESIDENTS:

**Angelo Waters**, Urban Engineers, Inc. **Cathy Farrell**, HNTB

**Guy DiMartino**, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

In accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws, only the immediate Past President will serve on the Board, and only for a oneyear term. We show the most recent three Past Presidents as has become our tradition.

In addition, these folks will serve in appointed positions:

- ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Jeanien Wilson, Philadelphia Department of
  - Streets
- ASSISTANT TREASURER: Caroline "Cricket" Slattery, Advantage Engineers

We wish these brave and generous folks our collective good luck for the coming season.

on May 20. GVF staff noted that as TPD celebrates its 30th anniversary as a firm, "we are excited to honor TPD for its dedication as a leader in Transportation Engineering and Design and for its continued support in advancing transportation demand management throughout the region."

# PA REPORT CARD CATEGORIES OF THE MONTH

For our Summer Edition, we feature two categories.



Each of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania has transit service available, offered by over 40 local transit agencies and operators.

Every county in Pennsylvania has transit service and the state boasts high transit usage in both cities and rural areas. In addition to the benefits of enhanced mobility, increased public safety, and environmental stewardship, the transit system's ability to carry more people in less space makes this mode an effective alternative to building new roadways. Additionally, as the population of the state continues to age, Pennsylvania offers free transit for senior citizens that is funded from the PA Lottery proceeds, and this offers an alternative to those who may no longer be able to drive.

However, challenges exist. Locally, SEPTA has identified \$5 billion of capital needs and the Port Authority of Allegheny County requires \$175 million for capital improvements to its light rail network alone. Smaller transit operators need to invest in vehicle replacement, storage and maintenance facility upgrades, and expanding the number of transit centers. Act 89 provided much-needed funding for transit infrastructure, which has helped properties address some capital needs, but in the future more funding will be needed to maintain and expand capacity.



For motorists statewide, traffic congestion results in over \$3.7 billion per year in lost time and wasted fuel, and deficient roadway conditions cost the average motorist over \$500 in operating and maintenance costs annually.

Significant increases in funding for improvements have been realized through the passage of Act 89 in 2013, resulting in 2,600 projects that are currently in progress or have been completed. Although these funds have contributed to the advancement of reconstruction, rehabilitation, new roadway, and intersection improvement projects, there is significant roadway backlog that still requires attention, as seen by 48% of PennDOTowned roadways having a fair or poor pavement surface. For motorists statewide, traffic congestion results in over \$3.7 billion per year in lost time and wasted fuel, and deficient roadway conditions cost the average motorist over \$500 in operating and maintenance outlays. In FY 2019, Act 89 funding will hit its maximum funding level and plateau. Thus, as Pennsylvania's roadway infrastructure ages, needs for increased capacity rise, and fuel economy increases, the funding gap will widen if no legislative action is taken.

# LEGISLATIVE DAY '19 — VISITS AND INTERACTION WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

For the 13th consecutive year, the ASCE PA Council conducted Legislative Day visits and meetings with State Representatives and Senators in Harrisburg. Legislative Day has been our annual opportunity for Engineers to talk to legislators about the facts regarding Pennsylvania's infrastructure, legislation and related issues. Nine volunteers, representing the four Sections that are part of the PA Council, participated in 18 meetings throughout the day on April 30 to emphasize the need for increased funding for water and wastewater/stormwater infrastructure in the Commonwealth, stormwater management planning regulations, transportation issues related to Act 89, and licensure/registration issues being considered in a current House Bill, as well as follow-up on the 2018 PA Infrastructure Report Card.

Three participants from our Section were able to take a day from their busy schedules and attend the event. Thanks to all who helped make this event productive, pictured below, as they took a short break between visits and posed in the lobby of the Main Capitol Building:

Dave DiGioia (Pittsburgh), Kerry Henneberger (Central Pennsylvania), Dion Campbell (Lehigh Valley), Chris Heck (Central Pennsylvania), Bob Wright (Philadelphia), Dave Wieller (Lehigh Valley), John Caperilla (Lehigh Valley), Angelo Waters (Philadelphia), Mohamed Elghawy (Philadelphia).



# FROM THE NOT-MUCH-AT-ALL CLUTTERED DESK OF THE EDITOR...

One thing your Editor enjoys about the Summer edition of *THE NEWS* is, that with not much else of import or priority to cover, I can carve a little space for myself to pass along some of my views and observations. Having taken early summer vacations for the past couple of years, I think it always makes it seem that much longer since our Section activity wound down and actual "summer" started. Even though our Spring Social, which was a little later this year than it has been in the past, was conducted not quite a month and a half ago as this is written, it seems much longer. And it shouldn't, because we know how time flies. Go figure.

Thus far, summer seems to have been a little slow in its arrival (and it's finally here, with the heat and humidity) and rain has been a constant for some reason this spring. While Section activity is a bit of a faded memory, and *THE NEWS*<sup>°</sup> presses have been inactive since just after Easter (also as late as it could be this year), it's time to blow the dust off the machinery again to crank out our summer update.

I always like to make people think. I know not everyone likes to have to think, but I do this anyway. In the immortal words of that mentor of many of us and a veritable font of information, Curly Howard, "I try to think but nothing happens." (He also noted on more than one occasion that his head hurt from thinking too much, so be careful. For those younger readers, please Google the Three Stooges for more background.) But this "ask" for thinking should be a relatively easy one - think about what our Section has done for you to keep you wanting to remain a member. I've done this several times and I keep finding it's a long list, and the many items on the list have helped me in my career. It seems if something is helping you accomplish your goals and aspirations, that's something of value.

Our Section continues to be a strong group that accomplishes quite a bit, despite all of us being busy people, and at least part of this is attributable to good and dedicated leadership. Many of us know of other technical society sections/chapters that are not doing so well these days because people are unwilling or otherwise too busy to commit time to them, and as we know, that commitment is "key" to success. Someone has to step up to steer the ship.

We continue to do very well and are both admired and envied by other groups which can only wonder how we do it. Our good mix of seasoned leaders, the enthusiasm of our Younger Members Forum, and the active and strong Student Sections, makes it all work. We consistently have good meetings and topics and get good turnouts at our events, something other groups struggle to do. We manage to succeed, despite how busy we all are, because we make it work.

As many of you have heard me say, we have a "good thing" going here, and it's been that way for quite a while. We've been at it for going into 107 Continued on page 5

### **NOT-MUCH-AT-ALL CLUTTERED DESK**

Continued from Page 4

years. Things that we do, and seemingly do routinely, are envied by other groups and even many ASCE Sections. For example, our **Infrastructure Report Card**, released last fall, has been used by National as an example for other Sections to follow, and is often cited in the press and by elected representatives and has been very well-received and regarded. Our **Centennial Book**, which admittedly took longer to get to reality than many of us would have liked, is similarly a quality document and is getting scrutiny from other ASCE Sections and Branches that are coming up on their own 100th birth-days and want to do something just like it. (Pittsburgh just did this recently.) And these are all volunteer-driven. Yes, amazing.

To switch gears slightly, the summer seems to be a good time to reflect on things as well, particularly with the ability to spend more time outside (both nice weather and longer daylight). One of the places I like to hang out is the garden, one of my "happy places", and I'm happy to report (since you asked...) that things are coming along well in my "back 40". While doing some weeding not too long ago, I was thinking recently how my esteemed predecessor, Sid Robin, had told me once that he was asked to fill in for a short while as the Editor of THE NEWS. Twenty-one years later, he handed the duties off to another "temporarily" while he served as Section President. At the end of his term, he returned to the Editor's chair. Forty years later, he passed away, still holding the title of Editor, and the job landed in my lap as the "interim" Editor. (Kind of makes one wonder what time frame the terms "short while", "temporary" and "interim" entail...). I thought about Sid's 61-year stretch as Editor and how I have only been on earth a year more than that at this point (and will likely get nowhere near that duration as Editor). It goes to show that if you're enjoying what you do, you keep doing it, and that pretty much describes both my reasons for involvement in our Section as well as my service as Editor. That plus no angry mob is calling for my resignation and I haven't managed to offend anyone - yet. (And I'm not working on that happening, but one never knows...) I have learned that I do enjoy being in the driver's seat at THE NEWS, even though it has its moments.

*THE NEWS* has helped to keep me on my toes, but, as I mentioned, it's all good. It keeps me busy and off the streets, so that works for many purposes. (The community in general thanks you for that!) I get a few compliments for it, mainly thanks to that loyal handful of folks who are our fan base. And we remain in search of that cartoonist...

And speaking of the Editor's desk, I'm working on keeping it uncluttered to the extent I can, but fortunately success is relative. At least it hasn't moved – the same desk I've had for the past three of these messages, so that's a good thing.

As we know, our collective strength lies in the people who take advantage of what our Section has to offer. We have been successful lately in our outreach efforts to "spread the word" about what we do, particularly with students, and we will be continuing to do so. We had another successful Legislative Day (see the separate article on this) and are building reputation and relationships with our elected representatives, through both these visits/meetings as well as the Report Card and its associated outreach. Not too long ago, Engineers were notorious for their introversion, and it's nice we're changing the paradigm and becoming noisier and more outward. It can only help.

# THE 2019 SPRING SOCIAL

May 16 turned out to be a great, sunny late spring day, and a large contingent of Section members and friends came out to spend that nice evening indoors, at the great space that is the Masonic Temple in Center City. We closed out our 106th season with the induction of our new slate of Officers and Directors, a thanks to the outgoing group, the citation of our Delaware



Valley Science Fairs award winners, and recognition of our Section Award recipients. You may have heard about it if you weren't there, but if you were there you experienced a very nice affair. We will provide more information on this in the October edition of *THE NEWS*.

# NEWS FROM NATIONAL NEW PRESIDENT ELECT AND NATIONAL DIRECTORS/GOVERNORS

The results of this year's election for National President Elect are in, with **Jean-Louis Briaud**, **Ph.D.** of Texas A & M University being selected. Dr. Briuad and **Dennis Truax** were the contenders for this position.

Dr. Briaud will be inducted at the Annual Business Meeting this fall at the ASCE 2019 Convention (more information on this is provided below). His extensive biography and experience are provided on ASCE National's website.

In addition, several Regional Directors and Governors were elected in this process. For our Region (Region 2), **Jack Raudenbush** is our Director-Elect and **Angela Mayer** and **Carrie Nicholson** will serve as our Governors-Elect. Thanks to all who participated in the election.

#### **NATIONAL CONVENTION – MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

# ASCE CONVENTION HYATT REGENCY MIAMI MIAMI, FLORIDA • OCTOBER 10 - 13, 2019

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the ASCE 2019 Convention in Miami. Experience the future of Civil Engineering, catch up with the latest industry trends, and meeting with innovative leaders at the Convention. It continues to be the premier Civil Engineering event each year.

What you will experience at the Convention will include:

- Sessions:
  - What's Up in Washington
  - Southeast Florida Resilience, Climate Change/Sea Level Rise
  - Oroville Dam Spillway Replacement
  - 150th Anniversary Building the Transcontinental Railroad
  - Women in Civil Engineering
- · Earn up to 17 PDH's
- · Learn from the experts
- Connect with your peers and make new connections
- Please visit www.asceconvetion.org for more information.

#### LOOKING TO REFER A NEW MEMBER OR BE A MENTOR OR PROTÉGÉ?

As a participant in ASCE's **Member Get A Member** referral program, you'll receive a \$50 Amazon.com gift card for each newly-joining professional member you refer. You can refer up to five colleagues at a time.

Also, ASCE's **Mentor March** provides an online platform to connect members (both mentors and protégés) using common interests and specific expertise for maximum career development.

Please visit **asce.org** for more details and information on each of these programs.

# **AND THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS !**

We are happy to report that our Section Sponsorship Program has enjoyed another successful season. We are as always grateful for the 15 firms which made the financial commitment for last season, with many of them having done this consistently for several years.

Sponsor logos are displayed in a special Sponsors section of our website. Additionally, we provide direct links to sponsors' own websites so prospective employees can review all available and up-to-date positions. We do not show the sponsors' logos in the Summer edition of *THE NEWS* but will pick it up again in the fall. And speaking of this, we will be contacting current sponsors later this summer with more information on the program for the coming season. We hope the program will be as successful then as well.

If you have an interest in joining our sponsorship program, please contact **Bob Wright** at **newseditor@asce-philly.org** for more details.

## **ASCE VISION**

*Civil Engineers are global leaders building a better quality of life.* 

# ASCE MISSION

*Provide essential value to our members and partners, advance Civil Engineering, and serve the public good.*