

SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2020-21 – ALMOST OVER...

Hard to believe, and time indeed flies... The last two Section meetings of this season are upon us and information on each is provided under separate headings for these announcements.

There is one remaining Section event in our “look-ahead” schedule, the **Spring Social**. This will be conducted on **Thursday, May 13**. Details are still being finalized and more information will be provided in the April edition of *THE NEWS*.

REMINDER – LOOKING FOR JUDGES FOR SCIENCE FAIRS

As we have for many years, our Section will be offering Special Awards at the **Delaware Valley Science Fairs**. The Fairs will be conducted virtually starting on **Wednesday, March 31** and extending through **Wednesday, April 7**. Four Special Awards for individual student projects that have a Civil Engineering theme will be awarded, with two prizes for Grades 6 through 8 and two for Grades 9 through 12.

Volunteer judges are needed for this effort. The judging will require you to spend some times reviewing, virtually examining, and short listing possible projects. It is always a very interesting and enlightening experience.

If you are interested in being a Special Awards judge please contact **Chris Rood** (chris.rood@acom.com). You will also need to register for this and this can be done through the Fairs’ web-site www.dvsf.org.

For more information on the Fairs please visit the above website.

We hope you can join us for a rewarding and interesting day.

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.*

MARCH SECTION MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers
Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING PRESENTATION – 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

SUBJECT: New Acela Trainset Facility Modifications and Storage Tracks

SPEAKER: Christopher Gray, PE, Principal Project Manager, Engineering Project Delivery, Major Capital, Amtrak

RESERVATION DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10. There is no cost for ASCE members to attend this presentation. Non-ASCE members will be charged \$15. When registering, please have your ASCE ID number available. Your membership will need to be current for you to be able to register for the event as a member.

Reservations can be made through our website (www.asce-philly.org) and paid via PayPal or by check as applicable. Checks, made payable to “Philadelphia Section ASCE”, can be mailed as instructed when you register. After you register you will receive information and instructions on how to access this meeting on your computer or device.

Building on Amtrak’s expertise as the only high speed rail operator in the US and Alstom’s record of delivering world class, proven, high speed trainsets, Amtrak and Alstom have partnered to introduce the next generation of Acela. These new trainsets will redefine the customer experience on Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor. They will feature 25% more seating capacity than the current Acela fleet and will have the spacious, high-end comfort customers expect. Personal outlets, USB ports and adjustable reading lights will be available at every seat. Contemporary food service, offering easy access and greater selection, will be offered, along with complimentary WiFi. The cars will exceed accessibility requirements for people with disabilities and will have spacious restrooms with a 60-inch diameter turning radius.

Scheduled to enter service in the Northeast Corridor this year, the new trains will provide travelers with world-class accommodations and amenities, along with an even more comfortable ride.

Mr. Gray will outline the various capital improvement projects scheduled to upgrade maintenance and support facilities that will be needed for the new high-speed fleet.

This presentation will be eligible for one Professional Development Hour (PDH).

APRIL SECTION MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

Virtual meeting starts at 12:00 Noon

As has been done for the past several years, this meeting will consist of “breakout” sessions on three separate topics. More information will be provided in the April edition of *THE NEWS*.

DUES – IF YOU HAVEN’T PAID YET, YOU’RE LATE...

Retaining membership in ASCE allows you to stay connected to the latest industry trends and keeps you linked to the best professional development programs and engaged with a worldwide network of peers. Your continual involvement builds a solid foundation to keep your career on track and moving toward achieving your professional and personal goals.

Dues for the current year were payable by January 1, but, if for whatever reason, you have not renewed, please avoid an interruption in your benefits and renew now. Choose the renewal option most



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I am enjoying the warmth of the sunshine through my window, as I am writing this message, and catch myself daydreaming of the soon-to-be spring and summer days! So, hope everyone reading this is doing the same and thawing out from winter! The seasons are not the only changes worth noting and discussing. There are numerous changes occurring in the Nation’s and State’s Capitals, including new officials taking office and agendas being developed to assist with infrastructure improvement.

With new officials settling into their offices, now is the opportune time to reach out and introduce yourself as an infrastructure expert. Elected officials rely on the knowledge and experience of professionals who are exposed and understand the needs of infrastructure...so yes, you are an expert! What if your elected officials are not new? Reconnect with them to remind them that infrastructure needs their help! If you are not sure who your elected officials are, find out [here](#).

Not sure what parts of infrastructure needs the most assistance? Check out the ASCE Report Card: **America’s Infrastructure Report Card**

The 2021 Report Card is being released on March 3, 2021. As I write this, I am looking back at the 2017 Report Card with an infrastructure score of D+. Could you imagine showing that one to your parents when you were in school?!

On a local level, there is also an ASCE PA Report Card, that focuses on the needs of PA’s infrastructure. The current one was released in 2018 with the next one slated for release in 2022: **Report Card for Pennsylvania’s Infrastructure - 2018**

Additionally, PennDOT recently announced the exploration of alternative funding sources throughout the state via tolling on up to nine bridges throughout the state, including the I-95 Girard Point Bridge in Philadelphia: **PennDOT Major Bridge P3 Initiative**

Here are a few leadership roles that are being filled at the National level:

- Secretary of Transportation (confirmed) – Pete Buttigieg, former Mayor of South Bend, IN
- Deputy Secretary (nominee) – Polly Trottenberg, former NYC Transportation Commissioner

There has been a lot of buzz related to their experience in transit, high speed rail, complete streets and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, which might bode well for these modes and for our urban centers.

We will continue to provide updates on the 2021 Report Card and potential infrastructure improvement bills that we, the experts, can assist in making the most positive impact and continue to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public while improving the quality of life for all humanity.

As always, check out our website for upcoming events and hope to (virtually) see you all at one soon!

Best,
Jen Reigle, PEz
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section
jreigle@pennoni.com | 215-254-7723

FIRMS IN THE NEWS

THIMHAHS – NOW THA CONSULTING — ADVANCING & TRANSITIONING IN 2021!

THIMHAHS IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR REBRANDING & TRANSITION TO NEW LEADERSHIP!

Two of the firm’s long-time senior executives, **Todd J. Helmer, P.E.**, and **James M. Zullo, AICP, CAPP** will lead the team of Parking, Engineering, and Design Professionals as Chief Executive Officer and President, respectively. This transition follows the December retirement of President and CEO **Timothy Haahs**, who founded the company in 1994. In conjunction with this leadership transition, the firm is also undergoing a companywide rebranding as THA Consulting, Inc.

Todd has been with the firm for 25 years and will be responsible for the company’s overall vision and strategic direction, client relationships, business, and financial management performance, and overall corporate operations. James will oversee business development, marketing, and parking study services. He has been with the



company for 13 years and manages its New Jersey and Northeast operations. In addition, Janice Haahs,

MBA, the Chief Financial Officer for the past 26 years, will also supervise and manage the firm’s daily operations as Chief Administrative Officer.

While the name is changing, this is the same dedicated team of professionals with extensive expertise in the unique and complex issues associated with parking and mixed-use facilities. THA thanks you all for the privilege of working with you over its last 26 years and it is excited at the opportunity to work with you in the future!

May your home always be too small to hold all your friends.

– Anonymous

ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2020-21 SEASON

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- Kazi Hassan, CDM Smith
- Angelo Waters, Urban Engineers, Inc
- Cathy Farrell, HNTB

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

Contact Us:

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SEND COPY TO:

ASCE, c/o Urban Engineers, Inc.
530 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL 2021 ISSUE MARCH 19, 2021

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Assunta Daprano, Forum Editor

Katrina Lawrence, Forum President 2020-21
Pennoni, klawrence@pennoni.com

VIRTUAL EVENT WITH CENTRAL BUCKS HIGH SCHOOL EAST

FEBRUARY 11

YMF hosted its second virtual **K-12 Outreach** event for the 2020-21 school year with Central Bucks High School East. K-12 Outreach Chairs, **CJ Medora** and **Christian Antisell**, were joined by YMF Vice President **Dennis Wilson** of McCormick Taylor, **Alyssa Pizzi** of TranSystems, **Amanda Slominski** of ELP, Inc., and **Sabrina Mamo** of Carroll Engineering for this event.

The volunteers spoke to students across all grade levels about Civil Engineering and answered questions about the profession and college life. YMF would like to thank our volunteers for taking the time out of their Thursday afternoons to volunteer!

SOMETHING DIFFERENT — ENGINEERING YOUR MIND EVENT

FEBRUARY 16

YMF hosted a virtual mindfulness event with **Elyssa Dixon**, a Professional Engineer turned Certified Mindfulness and Meditation Teacher. She spoke on the value of mindfulness from the technical perspective of an Engineer in an awesome, interactive event. The night included a mix of Elyssa presenting to the whole group and breaking into smaller groups to network and discuss our experiences with mindfulness and mental health. We learned what mindfulness is, and how it can impact our professional trajectory. We discussed tools to build a mindfulness practice using all five senses and discussed how to form good habits. To finish the night, Elyssa led us in a brief meditation.

Thank you, Elyssa, for joining and enlightening us! If you are interested in learning more about Elyssa's Mindfulness practice and professional offerings, visit her website: fleeceandforests.com.

BEANNAICHTÁ NA FÉILE PÁDRAIG!* — OUR ANNUAL LAME...

It looks as if it will have to be virtual (again...), but St. Patrick's Day is upon us once again. It seems like it happens every year... In any event, for that "great day for the Irish", as the song goes, we at THE NEWS will cite all things Irish with our annual "Lightly Amusing Message from Eire" (also known as LAME) for your enjoyment.

As with our Lightly Amusing Yuletide Message (LAYM) for the Christmas season, the staff of *THE NEWS* made an executive decision to go it alone with no contest or outside solicitation for submissions. With this comes the "downside" of handing the creative pen, along with the inspiration (read "spirits" – it's hidden in "inspiration" a little) to your Editor to come up with something. And this is something that always sends a little shiver up our spines, as we never really know where he's going to go with that. After a couple of years of reruns, he felt a need to come up with something original for this year, given how different and unique (read "lame"...) it has been. Ready or not, here we go.

Complaints and outrages can be registered at our website, as usual (keep in mind your Editor can get away with this, given his allegedly mainly-Irish heritage).

The virus arrived, it's been nearly a year
Second time this great day has to have subdued cheer
For those of you who can't call yourselves Irish
You can't be one of us but you can always wish

We'll let you join us with a drink in your raised hand
As we salute the great and glorious motherland

Some of our members are Irish, some want to be
Doesn't matter on St. Pat's Day, when we're all happy

As one we'll salute with our mugs of green beer
And for Engineers everywhere we'll shout out a cheer
It's been a tough time, locked down and much gloom
But we'll figure out a way to offer "slainte"*** over Zoom

We'll raise our glasses to salute the old sod
And to each other we'll merely offer a nod
No handshakes or hugs we can do at this time
But we're smiling behind the mask, just a little sublime

Vaccines are a'comin, although a little slow
Being locked down and distant has been quite a blow
We even miss work, as nuts as that may sound
Tough without our co-workers and pals not around

Can't do what the buttons say, I'm Irish, kiss me
Until quarantine is over it'll need to stay low key
But we hope and pray for when it will be like before
Happy St. Pat's Day this year and hope for many more!

And...

* Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig! (ban ochth' thee na fay'le paw' drig) – Happy St. Patrick's Day!
** Slainte (slan' cha) – good health (also the former name of a popular watering hole at 30th & Market Streets)

DUES

Continued from Page 1

convenient to you: online at asce.org/renewal (the quickest and easiest way), by phone at **800-548-ASCE (-2723)**, or by mail, using the invoice sent to you last fall (if you still have it). Ensure a positive return on your investment in a Civil Engineering career by renewing with ASCE.

LOOKING TO REFER A NEW MEMBER? OR SOMEONE WHO'S NOT AN ENGINEER?

ASCE's **Member Get A Member** referral program is a good way to refer prospective new ASCE members to our society. For each new member you refer, you can receive a **\$50 Amazon.com gift card** when they join. You can refer up to five colleagues at a time. More details

are available at asce.org.

Also, please keep in mind that ASCE isn't just for Civil Engineers. While you may be surprised to learn this, ASCE allows Non-Engineers to be members as well, with a specific grade of membership – **the Affiliate Member grade** – available for this purpose. While those with Civil Engineering degrees and backgrounds can usually join ASCE right out of school as Associate Members (and are eligible for reduced levels of dues if they have been Student Members), the Affiliate Member grade is available to anyone having "an interest in the advancement of the purposes and objectives of the Society", as stated in the definition provided in the ASCE Register, who may not have been eligible for Student Membership and/or do not meet the criteria for Associate Membership.

Thus, the Affiliate Member grade is ideal for those who work in related fields who may have an interest in Civil Engineering but do not have a Civil Engineering degree. Affiliate Members enjoy the same benefits and perks of ASCE membership as do other member grades above Student. Additionally, you may want to let some of your colleagues and friends know about this so they can consider ASCE membership and you can get some cash for the referral.

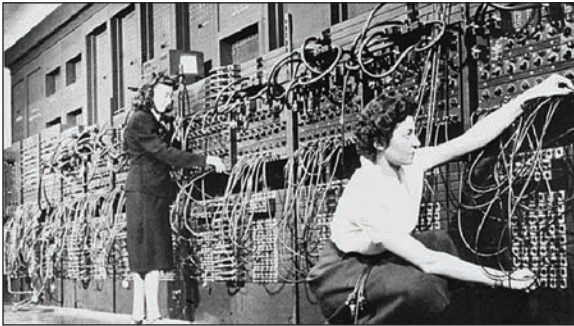
At the other end of the "spectrum", for those of you more senior and experienced members, the Fellow grade of membership is worth consideration. This is the highest level of membership one can attain on one's own and is a laudable and esteemed achievement. The specific requirements for application for this grade of membership are listed on asce.org.

N-ASCE*

MADE IN PHILADELPHIA, THE “FIRST MODERN COMPUTER” IS CELEBRATED ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

You may not know that the modern computer got its start right here in Philadelphia, at that school around the corner from Drexel (as many of you know it). In any event...

Imagine life without your laptop, your smartphone, even such ordinary electronic gadgets as your alarm clock. The ancestor of them all, a room-sized contraption made of switches, cables, and 18,000 glass containers called vacuum tubes, was unveiled to the public 75 years ago on February 11, in a lab at the University of Pennsylvania. (Parts of it are still on static display there.) Called **ENIAC** (pronounced en’ ee ack, not ee’ nee ack), it was the first all-electronic, programmable computer. Historians, engineers, and tech aficionados celebrated its creation in a weeklong series of events, starting on the anniversary date. And unlike in some past anniversary celebrations, organizers are recognizing not only the men who built the massive device, but also the pioneering women who programmed it.



Courtesy of University of Pennsylvania

With its coding prowess, Silicon Valley can claim to be the center of today’s tech world. But with the wartime effort to build ENIAC, Philadelphia laid the groundwork with both sides of the computer equation, hardware and software. But most tech experts recognize Philadelphia as the “crucible of the computer age”.

It began with John Mauchly, a young Ursinus College physics professor who thought he could predict the weather. In the late 1930’s, he hired students to crunch data from measurements of sunspot activity, but soon saw that he task was beyond human skill. He wondered whether the task could be accomplished by some sort of calculating device, and signed up for a course at Penn in the new field of electronics. The lab instructor was J. Presper Eckert, and the two hit it off, forming a partnership that would eventually result in ENIAC, the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer.

Their first application was not weather, but weaponry. The two built their device at the request of the Army, which needed a much faster way to determine the angles for firing its artillery during World War II. Calculating the trajectory for just one set of conditions, including wind speed, humidity, temperature, and terrain, took 40 hours by hand, using differential calculus. The task was entrusted to 100 women with math backgrounds, who were called “computers.” By using a mechanical device called the differential analyzer, they could whittle the calculating time for one trajectory below an hour, but that was still too slow during wartime. Yet, despite the relentless efforts by Mauchly, Eckert, and their team, ENIAC was not finished until after the war was over.

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 Committees and chairs for this season is provided below. We would like to thank all of these folks for their contributions and diligence in helping our Section do what it does.

Additionally, if you have a particular interest in helping the Section as a Committee volunteer, please reach out to us at info@asce-philly.org or through our Section Secretary, **Jesse Gormley** (contact information is provided on page 2).

Audit – Mohamed Elghawy

Awards – Bob Wright

Engineers Week Hall of Fame Recognition – Ruben David

Budget and Finance – Joe Natale

Civil Engineers in Government – Jeanien Wilson

College Scholarship – Scott Cepietz

Communications – Jesse Gormley

E-mail Outreach – Jeanien Wilson

Webmaster – Greg Dunn

Facebook – Joe Natale, Michael DeVuono

Newsletter – Bob Wright

Sponsorship – Bob Wright

Continuing Education – Mohamed Elghawy

Humphrey Fund – John Zarsky

Membership – Andrew Bechtel

Mural – Angelo Waters

Nominating (for Board Positions) – Jen Reigle

Program – Briana Pampuch

Venue Coordination – Troy Illig

Check-in/Name Tags – Nha Truong

Society Relations – Cathy Farrell

Region 2 Director – Jack Raudenbush

Region 2 Governors – Greg Kuklinski, Carol Martsof, Joe Platt, Pat Sullivan

Region 2 Younger Member Representative – Joe Natale

PA Council – Cathy Farrell, Bob Wright

Legislative Affairs – Spencer Finch

Spring Social – Troy Illig

Subsidiary Groups – Mohamed Elghawy

Construction Management – Bob Wright

Delaware Valley GeoInstitute – Russ Preuss

Environmental and Water Resources – Eric Lindhult

Structural Engineering Institute – James Deeney

Transportation and Development Institute – Bill Thomsen

Younger Member Forum – Katrina Lawrence

Conceptually, programming was the same as it is now, breaking down a problem into a series of logical steps and instructions. But there was no Python or Java or other handy language for the women to use in instructing ENIAC. Instead, these first programmers did the job by manipulating wires and switches. The women’s groundbreaking role was largely overlooked for decades afterward, their names omitted from events and in the captions of ENIAC photos. A documentary on this, “The Computers: The Remarkable Story of the ENIAC Programmers”, premiered at the 2014 Seattle Film Festival and helped set the record straight.

As for the device itself, other partly electronic computing devices came before it, but ENIAC is acknowledged as the first fully electronic programmable machine. None of the six original programmers is still alive, and ironically, after their era, computer coding became a male-dominated field and remains so.

Like so many other events during the last year, the ENIAC celebrations were virtual. But in a way, that is fitting, as the technology behind video conferencing would not be possible without that early electronic device at Penn.

Thanks to the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for this information.

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

FEBRUARY VIRTUAL MEETING/TRIVIA CONTEST

February 11, 2021

Virtual/Zoom

By Robert Wright, Editor

The second meeting in calendar 2021 was a bit of a different gathering. In past years, to avoid conflicts and “meeting overload” given Engineers Week, our Section has often opted to schedule a social event or no meeting at all in February for a number of years. With a need for some networking and getting together, despite the limitations on this to be virtual, it was decided to conduct an ASCE Trivia night to lighten things up a bit. And we may have needed some lightening, with winter managing to remember what it was once Punxsatawney Phil decided that we would be in for six more weeks of it, and not having had much of a winter until then. Thus, we had a chance to put down the snow shovels and ice scrapers for a little while and see how well our trivial knowledge actually is.

Section President-Elect **Briana Pampuch** and Director **Tania O’Kane** joined forces to get the roughly 25 participants settled in and teamed up

to compete in three areas – Philadelphia engineering trivia, ASCE trivia, and potpourri. With cash prizes on the line, the teams were dispatched to their breakout rooms to determine answers for 10 questions in each round, and then returned to the main meeting to score the responses. It was a tough fight, but four winning teams held the day, with a first-place, two second-place and one third-place finishers. Some networking (or maybe razzing) followed the “official” part of the meeting, and participants, even those whose teams didn’t manage to bring home a prize, appeared to enjoy some time in front of computer screens to get away from computer screens.

Thanks to Briana and Tania for putting this interesting and enjoyable event together, and we would guess there will be more of these in our future.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ENGINEERS WEEK

We hope you were able to participate in the local Engineers Week celebrations and events this year. It was celebrated from Thursday, February 18 through Saturday, February 27. While nationally it is observed starting on February 20, locally we extended it two days to work for our events.

The **Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee (DVEWC)** events were popular and successful, as usual. These included two main celebrations this time around as something different was tried – the Opening Ceremony/Dinner, to kick off E Week, was held virtually on February 18. Section Member and Past President **Bill Thomsen** was formally introduced as the **2021 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year** at the Ceremony, which drew over 160 attendees. Section Member **Kevin Brown** was installed as this year’s **Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year** at this event as well, and was the featured guest at the Young Engineers Social, conducted virtually on February 23. The Social was similarly well attended.

Two Section members were honored with special recognition. The late **Robert Koerner**, a past Section President, was inducted into the **Delaware Valley Engineering Hall of Fame**. **Frank Falcone** was cited with the **Outstanding Service to Engineering Award** as well.

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.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND AGENCY PARTNERS

As you may be aware, our Section offers a **Section Sponsorship Program** to allow firms to help provide our various activities and programs for our membership and the Civil Engineering community in the Philadelphia area. This involves a financial commitment which is reflected in the placement of the participant’s logo and business card in *THE NEWS* and on the Section’s website. This comes with other benefits and privileges as well. To date, 14 firms have participated in this Program, and we thank them for their support and generosity. We additionally welcome our newest sponsor, **Your Quality Solutions**, to our program.

Additionally, as we reported in the February edition of *THE NEWS*, we have begun our informal recognition of government and quasi-government agencies for the assistance they have provided us. We will cite them by name for the remainder of this season but will add their logos to our new Agency Partners section next season. We are proud to cite the initial “crop” of Agency Partners:

- Amtrak
- City of Philadelphia Department of Streets
- Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 6-0
- Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

May you have the hindsight to know where you’ve been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you have gone too far.

– Anonymous

TIME FOR NOMINATIONS FOR SECTION OFFICERS

It may seem like we just did this, but it is indeed time to do it once again. If you have an interest in being a part of the Section’s governance, your opportunity may be knocking. In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Section, President Jen Reigle will be appointing a Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of officers for all Section elective offices for the 2021-22 administrative year. The positions which will be open for nominees are President Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and at least three Director positions.

Please feel free to nominate yourself or a colleague if you are interested in serving the Section in one of these capacities. We are looking for hard-working, dedicated volunteers who have fresh ideas.

Nominations should be submitted to Section Vice President **Mohamed Elghawy** (melghawy@trafficpd.com) by **March 19**.

REPORT CARD UPDATE

A couple of items of note, ASCE Report Card-wise.

First, ASCE’s *Report Card for America’s Infrastructure* is being released on March 3. As an ASCE member, you are invited to join us for this special event. Representing the country’s most authoritative source on the state of American infrastructure, ASCE’s infrastructure report card is regularly cited by American presidents, members of Congress, governors, state and local officials, and the media. This year’s report card is especially important given the significant new investments in infrastructure being considered right now by Congress.

This year’s all-virtual report card summit offers you the opportunity to be part of this historic event as we announce new grades in 17 infrastructure categories, and host in-depth discussions with panels of bipartisan elected officials, decision makers, and thought leaders, concluding with remarks from Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg.

Locally, the update of our PA Infrastructure Report Card has recently gotten underway with the intended release scheduled for next year. Details are being worked out on the schedule and locations of the release. Before that can happen, however, the Report Card has to be developed and the various information needed for grade assessments must be gathered and reviewed as part of this process, along with the drafting of the category sections. Volunteers are being sought for assistance with this. If you have an interest and would like to be part of this team, please advise Section Secretary **Jesse Gormley** (contact information provided on page 2 of this edition) or via info@asce-philly.org. This is a very rewarding and commendable effort and your assistance would be greatly appreciated for this important document.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS – HOW MANY OF WE ARE WE?

We occasionally toss around facts and figures (mainly figures) about our Section membership. Our Membership Secretary, **Andrew Bechtel**, was able to provide these numbers for us for where we stand as we entered 2021.

- Total members – 2249
- Associate members – 426
- Members – 1063
- Fellows – 51
- Affiliate members – 72
- Life members – 304
- Students – 321
- Other – 11

This is down from figures from last May that we reported in the Summer edition of *THE NEWS*, when our total membership was at 2494, but may not fully account for those who did not send their dues/renewals by the January 1 due date.

We thank everyone for their help in our being able to have these impressive levels of membership and participation that we have.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Each February, ASCE marks **Engineers Week** by honoring 10 young professionals as New Faces of Civil Engineering. They are admirably ambitious, remarkably accomplished, and supremely impressive. In this year's "class," **Danielle Schroeder** was among those honored. Dani is an Associate Bridge Engineer at Pennoni and recently relocated to the Harrisburg area, where she has become an active member of the ASCE Central Pennsylvania Section and its Younger Member Group. She has been active in both ASCE and the Society of Women Engineers and has helped spread the "word" through her activity with student outreach to explain to the prospective Engineers of tomorrow why they should consider the Civil Engineering field.

More information on Dani and her fellow members of the class of 2021 can be found at www.source.asce.org. We congratulate her on this esteemed honor!

May your heart be light and happy, may your smile be big and wide, and may your pockets always have a coin or two inside!

– Anonymous

YOUR CARD CAN BE HERE!

CONTACT US AT
newseditor@asce-philly.org
FOR DETAILS



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