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 those who made the financial commitment for last season, with a total of 14 sponsors who rose to the occasion. 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 intend to contact 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 neweditor@asce-philly.org for more details.

VUSP 2017 PENNSYLVANIA STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

The Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership (VUSP) will conduct its annual Symposium on October 11 and 12, with a Municipal Workshop on October 10. Please mark these dates in your calendar. Villanova University has hosted this event in alternate years since 1998. The focus of the event this year will be Resilient Stormwater Systems.

The purpose of the Symposium is to advance the knowledge and understanding of sustainable stormwater management for those dealing in all aspects of planning, design, construction, maintenance and operations, and regulatory compliance. It brings together various professionals in engineering, planning, water resources, government and academia.

The Symposium will begin with a keynote speaker addressing Stormwater management issues in Pennsylvania. The remainder of the conference will include podium and poster presentations, panels discussing stormwater issues, and tours. Lunches will be provided and abstracts of the presentations will be published. An informal reception will be held at the end of the first day. Firms interested in sponsoring portions of the symposium or interested in a display, can contact Dr. Robert Traver (e-mail address provided below).

The Municipal Workshop will be held on October 10, with a theme of interest for municipal officials and staff, who will have priority for registration.

For information on becoming a VUSP member, contact Dr. Traver at vusp@villanova.edu

For more information, please visit the Symposium webpage: http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/engineering/research/centers/ vcase/vuspsymposium2017/symposium2017. html

SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2017-18

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.

2017

October 5 – Maggiano’s, Center City
November 9 – Maggiano’s, Center City
December – to be determined, “multi-society” joint meeting with Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia

2018

January 17 (Wednesday) – joint meeting with American Society of Highway Engineers, Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge
February – to be determined
March 8 – Maggiano’s, Center City
April – to be determined
May – Spring Social, to be determined

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, chairs and members was provided in the May edition of THE NEWS for your information.

If you have a particular interest in helping the Section as a Committee volunteer, this list advises you what groups we offer. If you would like to join a Committee, please reach out to us at info@asce-philly.org or through our Section Secretary, Briana Earle (contact information is provided on page 2).

Particular areas of need are these:

The PA Report Card will be updated starting in mid-September or so. We hope you enjoy your summer!
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the Philadelphia Section enters our 105th year, I am honored to serve as President of the largest engineering professional society in Philadelphia. Reflecting on this past ASCE season, the Board under Guy DiMartino’s Presidency had many highlights including: selling out every Section dinner meeting, publishing the Centennial Book, and hosting the premier of ASCE’s Dream Big Imax movie, in addition to our recurring professional development, student outreach and networking opportunities.

Although Guy and the outgoing Board set the bar high, the following are three areas I would like to focus on improving during the 2017-18 season:

• Engaging New Volunteers – In addition to publicly recognizing our volunteers, we’ll be promoting the personal benefits our volunteers gain from participating with ASCE. Personally, I credit ASCE for giving me a jump start in my career to run teams of people, expanding my technical knowledge and building friendships. We’re currently looking for a volunteer to help sign in meeting attendees and a volunteer to take pictures of our meetings…contact me if you’re interested in helping.

• Improving Internal Operations – We’ll be building off prior lessons learned, improving procedures to simplify the efforts of our volunteers and ending our board meetings by the start of the networking/cocktail hour.

• Government Relations – We’ll be educating our members on politics related to Civil Engineering, so our members may feel more confident and inclined to speak up about their concerns. I challenge everyone to take actions each month to become more engaged in politics. Also, I can’t issue a challenge without holding myself accountable, so in each of my President’s messages I’ll update you about my efforts.

Government Relations Update: In life, I like to tackle the biggest challenges first. My first venture of becoming involved in politics was visiting state representatives and senators in Harrisburg as part of ASCE’s Pennsylvania Legislative Day in May. There were multiple teams each consisting of four/five ASCE members from the Commonwealth and a government strategy expert. We were briefed on the topics to cover and each group then met with Senators/Representatives and/or their staffs to promote Senate Bill 242 (a long-term extension of the PA One Call Requirement) and House Bills 913, 914 and 915 (clarifying that local municipalities may create a utility to regulate and manage stormwater runoff if they choose to do so). The team format and repetition of meetings allowed newbies like myself to observe the conversations until I felt more comfortable to participate in the conversation…all while knowing others were ready to jump in if needed. I also learned that the PA One Call requirement expires and that many municipalities are not using all the tools available to help fund stormwater infrastructure.

I hope you’re looking forward to this upcoming ASCE year as I am.

Sincerely,

Cathy Golata Farrell, P.E.
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section
cfgfarrell@hntb.com | 610-290-5108

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

ABEL RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Timothy Abel, was selected by the National Committee on Younger Members (ASCE CYM) to receive a Certificate of Commendation for the 2017 Daniel W. Mead Prize. This is awarded annually to Younger Members on the basis of papers on professional ethics. This year’s topic was, “Is it ethical for university engineering faculty to teach technical subject matter to engineering students without obtaining professional licensure?”

Tim was selected for his paper, “Ethically Ambiguous: Addressing the Implications of University Engineering Faculty Who Teach Without Obtaining Professional Licensure, and an Argument for Professional Licensure in Engineering Academia,” which was nominated by our Section for submission. He is one of only three Engineers selected for this national recognition.

Tim has been invited to personally accept the AGC Scholarship and the AGC Award at the annual conference in New Orleans in October. Additionally, he has been invited to sit on the Mead Prize Topic Selection Subcommittee of the CYM to help choose the Daniel W. Mead Prize paper topic for the forthcoming year.

Congratulations to Tim on this honor.

TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE’S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PAVEMENTS & AIRFIELD TECHNOLOGY

The ASCE National Transportation and Development Institute will conduct the International Conference on Highway Pavements and Airfield Technology at the Loews Hotel from August 27-30. Exhibit and sponsorship opportunities are available. There will be several sessions which will offer PDH opportunities as well. See links below for more details.

Please contact Drew Caracciolo (703-295-6087 or dcarraciolo@asce.org) for information on the exhibit and sponsorship opportunities.

Please visit www.pavementsconference.org for additional information on topics, sessions and registration.

ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION—2017-18 SEASON

Our Section officers and Board members for the current season were sworn in by Region 2 Governor Carol Martinof at our Spring Social on May 4. They are as follows:

PRESIDENT
Cathy G. Farrell, HNTB, Inc.
PRESIDENT ELECT
Angelo Waters, Urban Engineers, Inc.
VICE PRESIDENT
Kazi M. Hassan, Pennoni Associates, Inc.
SECRETARY
Briana Earle, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services
TREASURER
Jennifer Reigle, Pennoni Associates, Inc.
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
Mohamed Elghawy, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

DIRECTORS
Andrew Bechtel, College of New Jersey (’17-’19)
Kevin Brown, Urban Engineers, Inc. (’17-’19)
Spencer Finch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Sciences (’16-’18)
Troy Illig, PB (’16-’18)
Joseph Natale, WSP (’16-’18)
Jeanien Wilson, Phila. Dept. of Streets (’17-’19)

PAST PRESIDENTS*
Guy DiMartino, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.
AnnMarie L. Vigilante, Langan Engineering & Environmental Sciences

*2nd and 3rd Past Presidents are non-voting members.
Servicing in non-voting positions will be Assistant Secretary Chris Renfro of the Philadelphia Department of Streets and Assistant Treasurer Joseph Natale. Joe will wear two hats this season as he is also on the Board of Directors.

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

President—Cathy G. Farrell, PE
Assistant Department Manager, Transportation HNTB, Inc.
1650 Arch Street, Suite 1700
Philadelphia, PA 19103
610-290-5108
cgfarrell@hntb.com

Secretary—Briana Earle, EIT
Staff Engineer
Langan Engineering and Environmental Services
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Doylestown, PA 18901-0219
(215) 451-6500
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PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Editor of THE NEWS
Robert Wright

Section Outreach Coordinator
Briana Earle

SEND COPY TO:
ASCE, c/o Urban Engineers, Inc.
530 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

COPY DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER 2017 ISSUE
SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
In the May issue of THE NEWS we promised more information on this event at North Penn High School in Lansdale, as space did not permit full coverage then. This event was developed to allow students to engage with professional Engineers and Engineering college students, allowing them to ask questions about careers, projects, and goals; and to find out what it’s like to be an Engineering college student. YMF K-12 Co-Chair Charlie Mumford introduced the day’s four hour planned activities and ASCE’s film Dream Big with clips to highlight Engineer paths and Engineering roles in society.

YMF invited the Engineers Without Borders-USA Philadelphia Chapter to present and run a rotation. EWB-USA Philly’s President James W. Furman II and Local Outreach Coordinator Matt Parkhurst presented on a global and community perspective, challenging students to think beyond themselves, to consider their own impacts to themselves and to the world when they “engineer change.” Other volunteers led multiple round-robin rotations with all 200 students, dividing students in small groups and rotated from Engineer to Engineer to have students rotate through the various topics. The event was very well received. Thanks to all the YMF members and students, families, faculty at the Annual Balsa Wood Bridge Testing and Awards Ceremony.

THE W HOTEL CONSTRUCTION SITE TOUR MAY 15
YMF took a tour of the W/Element Hotel Construction Site. The group of 15 was given the tour by the building contractors, Tutor Perini. Before the group went out to the construction site, Tutor Perini and the building Structural Engineer, O’Donnell and Naccarato, provided a project overview and time lapse video of the concrete mat pour, which is the longest in Philadelphia history. Tutor Perini invited the YMF back for a follow up tour in 2018 when the building will be reaching its final height at 52 stories. Several group members from the tour attended a happy hour at Ladder 15 after the tour.

ELECTION HAPPY HOUR MAY 16 • REVOLUTION HOUSE, OLD CITY
YMF gathered at Revolution House for the annual Election Happy Hour. Polls were open until 7 PM, and then the results were revealed. Congratulations to the following YMF members elected to executive board positions for the 2017-18 YMF year: Nha Truong – President; Eammon Farley – Vice President; Joe Natale – Treasurer; and Jesse Gormley – Secretary. YMF was also able to officially pass a number of revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws, as attendees voted on that in addition to casting their votes. Appetizers were provided, and attendees were free to enjoy the second-floor deck of Revolution House, over- looking the intersection of 2nd and Market Streets. YMF would like to thank everyone that was able to participate in this election, either online or in-person, as well as those who have participated and joined in our events throughout the year.

PHILLIES GAME AND TAILGATE JUNE 2
YMF hosted its annual Phillies Game and Tailgate event. The event was a great success, with over 100 attendees, including members of the Delaware and South Jersey YMF Sections (and at least two YMF “alum” who will remain nameless…!). Despite a less than competitive game, the weather was perfect and the tailgate was very well received. Thanks to all the YMF members who came out and made for a great end of year event!

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Lindsay Chateauvert, Forum Editor
Nha Truong, Forum President 2017-18
Philadelphia Water Department
1101 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
nha.truong@phila.gov

VILLANOVA VISIT APRIL 19
YMF visited Villanova University and participated in a panel discussion with students. YMF panelists included Nha Truong, Joe Natale, Christine Alizzzi, Chris Rapone, and Scott Cepietz. There were about 35 students in attendance. The students asked a wide variety of good questions ranging from obtaining internships to what has helped each of the panelists be successful in his/her career.

CIRA GREEN TOUR MAY 1
YMF members attended a tour of the Cira Green at Cira Centre South, a one-of-a-kind urban park spanning over one acre in size and elevated 95-feet above street-level in University City. The tour began with representatives from the Philadelphia Water Department describing the city’s Green City, Clean Waters initiative, and explaining how practices employed in the design and construction of the Cira Green fall in line with Philadelphia’s innovative plan to reduce stormwater pollution currently entering the city’s combined sewer system. The group was then exposed to several innovative stormwater management features incorporated into the Cira Green by representatives from Roofmeadow, the Landscape Architecture firm responsible for the roofscape’s blue-green design. Several volunteers and student members of the YMF Chester A. Arthur School CivE Club attended the first tour and about 20 YMF members attended the second tour. YMF would like to thank Charlie Miller, Melissa Muroff, and Jane Winkl from Roofmeadow, as well as Maggie Dunn, Alan Fody, and Victoria Lenoci from the Philadelphia Water Department for their willing participation in the planning and hosting of this awesome event!

CRITICAL ISSUES SEMINAR MAY 10 • LADDER 15, CENTER CITY
YMF hosted its annual Critical Issues Seminar (“CIS”) with the topic of Sustainable Infrastructure. Panelists Dr. Jennifer Righman McConnell of the University of Delaware and Dr. Charles Haas of Drexel University led an audience of nearly 50 Engineers through an encouraging, informative and interesting discussion about sustainable infrastructure in the Civil Engineering profession, including developing/current research, approaches for advocacy, recognized successes, failures, and limitations observed in the endeavor to provide more sustainable infrastructure, and what role Civil Engineers play in the process. The compelling dialogue was preceded by a period of networking with appetizers.

Continued on page 5
INFRASTRUCTURE DAY ’17 ANOTHER SUCCESS!

A total of 15 members of the Pennsylvania ASCE Sections attended the 2017 PA Infrastructure Day in Harrisburg on May 9. As you may be aware, Infrastructure Day is an opportunity for Engineers to talk to legislators about the facts regarding Pennsylvania’s rapidly aging infrastructure and related issues. It was a day-long event, starting with orientation and registration and followed by meetings with individual legislators in the Capitol. Visits and discussions were conducted with 25 legislators and their staffs to convey the message for increased funding for water and wastewater/stormwater infrastructure in the Commonwealth, stormwater management planning regulations, and the renewal of the One-Call law, which is in legislative committee. Additionally, “leave-behind” packets/information were provided to a number of elected representatives who could not schedule face-to-face visits for various reasons.

Thanks to all who helped make this event productive. From our Section, President Cathy Farrell, President-Elect Angelo Waters, and Past Presidents Ann Tomalavage and Bob Wright participated in the visits. Cathy and Bob are shown above at the State Capitol along with their visit teammates Coreen Casadei (Pittsburgh Section), John Caperilla (Lehigh Valley Section) and Greg Scott (Pittsburgh Section).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

REMEMBER, PA PE’S EXPIRE IN SEPTEMBER!

As you may be aware, professional engineers, land surveyors and geologists are required to obtain continued professional development (CPD) credit to renew their licenses in many states. Locally, this includes Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

As a reminder, those of us with Pennsylvania licenses will be up for renewal this year, as current licenses will expire on September 30. Renewal will require that the license holder can be able to demonstrate that he/she has earned the required 24 professional development hours’ (PDH) worth of valid instruction, training and/or education in the licensing period (starting October 1, 2015). This includes up to 12 PDH’s that were earned prior to that, not applied to the last license renewal, and carried over into the current licensure period.

Our Section’s meetings are generally able to count toward your continuing education requirement (meetings that the Section believes would not count will be prefixed as such in the meeting announcement) for many states. (New York and Florida are two exceptions where coursework pre-approval by the state board is required). We continue to have a verification program in place to help our members obtain and track PDH’s. Our monthly meeting schedule provides at least a half-dozen opportunities for you to pick up PDH’s. Over a two-year licensure period, this could amount to half of what one needs to meet many states’ requirements.

Also, you may have noticed that you can earn up to 5 PDH’s by choosing to attend up to 5 on-demand webinars offered by National as a free benefit of your membership. There is a list of over 60 such webinars from which you can choose. You will receive login information for these webinars once you renew your membership. We list ASCE National course and seminar offerings in THE NEWS and on our website, for those of you who may need to pick up a handful of PDH’s before the looming deadline.

And for those of you who don’t yet have PE after your name and may be considering “taking the plunge” for an upcoming PE exam in the future, 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. Please visit www.asce.org for more information on available courses.

To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

FROM THE NOT-SO-CLUTTERED DESK OF THE EDITOR...

Hard to believe that summer is here, but it is. It seems as if your Editor just put the “wraps” on the May edition and shut down the machinery that is THE NEWS, but here we are firing it up again to give you our summer update. It also presents an opportunity for your Editor (and he’ll now switch to the first-person point of view) to put together some thoughts, something that only happens in the Summer edition given all the other material we have to cover the rest of the season. So the pressure’s on for me to make good use of this…

It’s also hard to believe our Section has reached the ripe old “age” of 105, but, again, here we are, and we don’t look so bad for being that old. Last season was a busy and productive one, with several long-awaited items coming to fruition, including the very nice Centennial Book, and a well-received meeting program. We are working to wrap up the long-awaited reinstallation of our mural and developing a schedule of informative and topical meetings and events in the coming months. Also, efforts will be getting underway on the update of our PA Report Card, due out next spring. And, in a move that had some mixed reviews, we went totally electronic with THE NEWS after last October’s edition, ending 89 years of having a hard-copy product and leaving the last 30 or so hold-outs who were still getting the “snail mail” version having to find access to our website for their enjoyment of THE NEWS. So, with all this happening, it makes sense that we take the summer off to regroup a little and take a breath or two.

But we don’t really take the summer off. Our Board has already had a planning session in June and will hold one more summer meeting to map out the season. There will be various committee and group meetings as well to address specific details and areas. While we generally do not have formal events for members in the summer months, there is still much going on behind the scenes to prepare for what will happen when activities begin once again after Labor Day.

And speaking of the Editor’s desk, it isn’t so cluttered (hence the title — but I’m working on it…), and it’s once again in a new location, as a long-awaited item comes to fruition, including the very nice Centennial Book, and a well-received meeting program. We are working to wrap up the long-awaited reinstallation of our mural and developing a schedule of informative and topical meetings and events in the coming months. Also, efforts will be getting underway on the update of our PA Report Card, due out next spring. And, in a move that had some mixed reviews, we went totally electronic with THE NEWS after last October’s edition, ending 89 years of having a hard-copy product and leaving the last 30 or so hold-outs who were still getting the “snail mail” version having to find access to our website for their enjoyment of THE NEWS. So, with all this happening, it makes sense that we take the summer off to regroup a little and take a breath or two.

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And speaking of the Editor’s desk, it isn’t so cluttered (hence the title — but I’m working on it…), and it’s once again in a new location, as a new opportunity presented itself recently. In short, well, let’s just say I haven’t written this at the last desk (cluttered or otherwise) for the past three summers. Sounds like this guy has trouble holding a job, but, again, I’ll call it opportunity.

But it’s not my story — keep in mind our Section is a great asset for you, whether you can be an active volunteer or an attendee at meetings and events. Our collective strength lies in the people who take advantage of what our Section has to offer, particularly as it represents your profession and looks out for your best interests as a professional. We have been successful lately in our outreach efforts to “spread the word” about...
NEWS FROM NATIONAL
NEW PRESIDENT ELECT

For the first time in Society history, women will hold all three levels of presidential leadership. Robin Kemper has been elected ASCE National 2018 President-Elect by a majority of voting Society members in a month-long election that closed June 1. She will be inducted at the Annual Business Meeting this fall at the ASCE 2017 Convention in New Orleans.

When Ms. Kemper assumes her duties in October, she will join 2018 President Kristina Swallow and 2018 Past-President Norma Jean Mattei in the all-female Society triumvirate of leadership. She is a senior risk engineering consultant for Zurich Services Corporation in New York, advising owners and engineering, construction, and architectural firms on matters of professional liability, builders risk, risk management, and best operational practices. She serves as ASCE’s Raise the Bar Committee and the Committee on Professional Conduct and is ASCE’s liaison with the New Jersey Society of Professional Engineers, and served as past ASCE representative with Engineers Without Borders USA. Her many Society leadership roles include terms as a District Director and New Jersey Section President. She has also chaired several ASCE committees.

NATIONAL CONVENTION – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Don’t miss this opportunity to:
• Learn about cutting-edge innovations in the industry
• Participate in thought-provoking education sessions
• Develop leadership skills to enhance your career
• Listen to experts on natural disaster response and recovery
• Discover ways to cut costs, streamline processes and drive change
• Network with potential clients and peers
• Earn up to 20 PDHs

Please visit www.asceconvention.org for more information.

NOT-SO-CLUTTERED DESK
Continued from Page 4

what we do, particularly with students, and we will be continuing to do so. As we know, but as Engineers, for some reason, we have a difficult time grasping, the squeaky wheel gets the grease. We’re improving our “squeaking” skills and getting a more fair share of the lubrication these days, as our efforts have helped us build relationships and reputation in several areas, particularly in the political arena.

Most of our success is directly attributable to the many dedicated and hard-working individuals who give of their own time to volunteer and serve on the many technical societies and organizations that help to represent our interests as Engineers. Please take the time to thank those of them with whom you interact and work for what they do. They do their best to keep our Section a “good thing”.

And we could always use more help. As noted elsewhere in this edition, our Section Committees are always in need of volunteers. Specifically for THE NEWS, in our goal to have more photos (and fewer words), we could use some assistance with photography at our meetings, and those who enjoy writing (which Engineers tend not to) are always welcome to contribute. And, our (unfortunately) never-ending quest for a cartoonist continues, if you’re artistically inclined — and we use “artistic” in the loosest-possible sense…

We look forward to a good Season 105 and we hope to see you at some of our events.

DESCRIPTION OF IMAGE

YMF NEWS
Continued from Page 3

University student), Temple students Alex Hazuda, Jodie Hyland, and Claire Marshall, and Drexel student Yasmina Shields. Thanks also to the Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia’s Committee on Younger Members and the Delaware Valley Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) for reaching out to their members.

YMF K-12 Co-Chair Charlie Mumford (Pennoni Associates) coordinated, recruited volunteers, led, and facilitated all efforts and the entire visit. Special thanks to North Penn Project Lead the Way teachers Michael Boyer, Curt Reichwein, Michael Voichcek and Julia Young for working with our YMF to coordinate an inspiring second visit to their school.

SECTION COMMITTEES
Continued from Page 1

folks to coordinate the logistics of the public “unveiling” in the spring as well as the outreach efforts with the press, social media and related activities.

If you’re looking to meet new people, you could help with the meeting registration table/sign-in process.

In our goal to have more photos for THE NEWS and our archives, we could use some assistance with photography at our Section meetings.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
IT’S PA INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT CARD TIME AGAIN!

In 2006, the four ASCE Sections in Pennsylvania (Central PA, Lehigh Valley, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh) prepared and released the PA Report Card for Infrastructure, which examined the conditions of the built environment across the Commonwealth, provided overviews of short- and long-range plans, policies and budgets committed to infrastructure improvements, and summarized this with letter grades and recommendations. The Report Card was revised and updated in 2010 and 2014. The latter was highly praised by ASCE National and became a model for other States. It is frequently used by legislators and other non-engineers to illustrate their points on the need for continued infrastructure improvements and funding.

More information on the Report Card can be found at www.pareportcard.org.

The time has come for us to start working on the 2018 Report Card for Pennsylvania’s Infrastructure. Our target release date is May 2018, possibly to coincide with a Legislative Day-type event at the Capitol to share our hard work.

Volunteers will be needed to make this happen. The intent is to cover 16 target areas: Dams, Drinking Water, Hazardous Waste, Levees, Solid Waste, Waste Water, Aviation, Bridges, Inland Waterways, Ports, Rail, Roads, Transit, Parks and Recreation, Schools and Energy. The Report Card could potentially include 18 categories by splitting Rail between Freight and Passenger as well as the addition of Aviation. This will be determined once the effort is underway.

The effort will need a Champion for each coverage area and subject area volunteers. Ideally, the Champion should be an ASCE Member in good standing who is active in one of the PA ASCE Sections with an interest in the respective target area. The anticipated time commitment for champions is about 4 to 8 hours per month. The subject area volunteers will assist the Champions in the gathering and presentation of data. They would not need to be ASCE members and the time commitment could vary based on their availability. Involvement of students and Younger Members would be desirable.

Over fifty volunteers worked to simply create the 2014 Report Card. That doesn’t include the dozens of volunteers associated with the release and outreach. If you are interested, please take a minute to complete the following survey, which will help track our volunteer pool: www.surveymonkey.com/r/VHRYNCY

Please contact Jason Bowes, the Chair for the PA Report Card Update (jbowes@gpinet.com or 570-703-0458), for more information.