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NON OMNIA POSSUMUS OMNES (WE CANNOT ALL DO EVERYTHING)



**DECEMBER MULTI-SOCIETY MEETING**

**Engineers' Club of Philadelphia and Numerous Technical Societies**

Please join the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia and our co-sponsoring partner societies for our annual Multi-Society Meeting. As of press time the information on this meeting was not available and it will be provided in upcoming e-mail blasts.

**The meeting will be a virtual event.**

The Philadelphia Section will NOT be accepting any reservations for this meeting.

All reservations should be directed to the **Engineers' Club**, online through the Club website, [www.engrclub.org](http://www.engrclub.org). Payment will be expected for all reservations regardless of attendance.

**SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2021-22**

The Section Meeting program for the upcoming season is in the preparation mode 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. Our plan has been to return to in-person meetings in 2022, and more details will be forthcoming on this. This is also subject to ASCE National Guidance. If we must revert to virtual, the meetings will be conducted on the same date. The information we have at this point is 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.

**2022**

**February** – to be determined

**March 10** – Maggiano's Center City; Delaware River Port Authority Capital Program and Projects Update

**April** – to be determined

**May** – Spring Social, to be determined

**JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 19, 2022**

**Joint Meeting with American Society of Highway Engineers**

Virtual meeting

**SUBJECT: SCHUYLKILL BANKS UPDATE AND NEW CHRISTIAN TO CRESCENT BRIDGE CONNECTION**

**SPEAKER: JOSEPH R. SYRNICK, PE, PLS**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Schuylkill River Development Corporation/Schuylkill Banks

More information on this topic, the meeting format (in-person or virtual) and start time will be provided in the January edition of *THE NEWS*. Reservations for this meeting must be made through the Delaware Valley Section, ASHE, and this will be provided in January as well as coming e-blasts.

**THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS**

Our Section Sponsorship program is off and running once again, with 14 firms "in" thus far. We extend our special and collective THANKS to each sponsor for their financial commitment and support.

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 also offer sponsors the opportunity to have a "spotlight" article in an edition of *THE NEWS* as well as service as a sponsor of one of our monthly dinner meetings.

If you have an interest in joining our sponsorship program, there's still time to be part of this season's group. Please contact **Bob Wright** at [newseditor@asce-philly.org](mailto:newseditor@asce-philly.org) for more details.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope everyone has been staying warm during the cooler fall weather and is getting excited to celebrate with family and friends this holiday season!

Thank you to everyone who "tuned" in to our virtual November Section meeting on November 11. Pennoni did a great job presenting on the **Schuylkill Yards Development** in Philadelphia. We started our event with the Pledge of Allegiance in recognition of Veterans Day and ended with a very engaging Q&A session.



We invite everyone to register for the Multi Society meeting hosted by the **Engineers Club of Philadelphia (ECP)**. Further details and registration will be posted in the coming weeks.

As we enter into the New Year we will be joining up with **ASHE Delaware Valley** for our January event and participate in **Engineers Week Events** in February with ECP. For our March and April Section meetings, we will be reevaluating at the beginning of the year on how we will be moving forward and hope to host these events in person!

If you are not aware, **November 5 is ASCE Day** and it was also the day during this past month that the U.S. House of Representatives passed the **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)**! The IIJA is the culmination of decades of advocacy by American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) members who worked tirelessly to educate Congress about the role infrastructure plays in supporting the economy and our quality of life — with such tools as our Infrastructure Report Cards and our Legislative Fly-Ins to Washington DC and our state capitals.

We ask that you reach out to your local legislators and representatives to say thank you for pushing this bill through! I know we all are looking forward for what is to come of the bill in the coming years!

Lastly I want to continue to take note of the 2022 ASCE PA Report Card. If you are interested in being a volunteer please reach out to our co-chairs **David DiGioia** ([ddigioia@mcmahonassociates.com](mailto:ddigioia@mcmahonassociates.com)) and **Michelle Madzellan** ([memadzellan@elagroup.com](mailto:memadzellan@elagroup.com)).

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and "see" everyone at the Multi Society meeting hosted by Engineers Club of Philadelphia (ECP) in December!

Best,  
Briana Pampuch, PE  
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section  
[bpampuch@langan.com](mailto:bpampuch@langan.com) | 215-491-6548



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\*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.

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR JANUARY 2022 ISSUE  
DECEMBER 10, 2021**

## NOVEMBER SECTION “VIRTUAL” MEETING

November 11, 2021

## Schuylkill Yards Development

By Briana Pampuch, President and Robert Wright, Editor

For the second meeting of our current season, and keeping with the virtual format (and hoping for the return of in-person meetings, possibly in the 2022 half of this season — stay tuned and keep your fingers crossed...), the return to standard time a few days before meant that this meeting would start well after sunset. However, those in charge of the weather must not have been looking at the calendar at all, providing an unusual warm day for the approach of mid-November. A crowd (represented by a full screen of faces, since it was virtual) of nearly 70 attendees signed on to hear about the exciting changes in the eastern edge of University City on the fringes of Drexel's campus and the “front door” of 30th Street Station (itself to be the location of new and different things in the near future given the recently-announced redevelopment effort for it) that will transform this area to accommodate several new uses. (And while this was going on, for full disclosure purposes, your Editor was over a thousand miles away, sitting in a stadium awaiting the start of that week's NFL Thursday night offering, hence the “assist” in the assembly of this from your President).

Said President, **Briana Pampuch**, opened the meeting and, in honor of **Veterans Day**, led the attendees in the **Pledge of Allegiance**. (We heard there was a fighter-jet flyover planned as well, but, as noted, your Editor wasn't there and can't say for certain this actually was pulled off — if you heard a roar in the sky during the meeting, that was probably it.) After a few announcements on upcoming and planned events, President Pampuch introduced the **Widener University Student Chapter**, this month's spotlighted Chapter, represented by **Kyle Schaeffer** and **Daniel Kane**, who provided an update on the Chapter's current activities and events.



**President-Elect Moe Elghawy** introduced the presentation team for the session, led by members of the project team at Pennoni. **Mark Celoni**, Regional Vice President and Project Manager for this effort, and **Jesse Buck** and **Jessica Stefanowicz**, Staff Engineers, walked the attendees through the undertaking (ironically, Pennoni's offices were located in 3001 Market Street building, one of the early elements of the current project, for many years before it moved to its current location in Center City in 2017). The presentation team outlined how a partnership was formed between Drexel University and Brandywine Realty Trust to get the effort off the ground, with the current Cira Center buildings and the renovation of the former Main Post Office Building in the 30th Street Station area among the first aspects of the program to be put into place. The Cira buildings in particular have transformed the City's skyline with high-rises on the west side of the Schuylkill River that complement those in Center City.

Continuing as part of the current phases of the project, Schuylkill Yards encompasses 14 acres of mixed-use interconnected parks and office, life science and lifestyle spaces. With this being directly adjacent to the regional transportation hub at 30th Street Station, with its significant transit

Continued on page 5

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

## TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES...

As a reminder, the “day of reckoning” is a-comin'... your 2022 ASCE dues is coming due at the end of the year. You should have seen the e-mail reminders on this and hard-copy invoices are being mailed. It might seem as if you just paid this, but it is indeed renewal time again.

And if you want to advise friends and colleagues of the benefits of membership, **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](https://www.asce.org).

As you may be aware, your membership entitles you to be eligible for ASCE Member Advantages. These encompass benefits in several member discount programs including professional liability insurance, life insurance, credit cards and banking services, and rental car discounts. ASCE always looks to negotiate the best deal for members. Similarly, when members save through these programs, ASCE earns revenue that helps keep your dues rates as low as possible. Please check [asce.org](https://www.asce.org) for the details on these offers and programs.

There are additionally a number of free eLearning Webinars available to help you develop critical career skills, with topics covering a broad range of technical interests, leadership development tools, and key member programs. Many of these offer professional development hour (PDH) credit that you may need for your license renewal. Often these PDH's are valid in states such as Florida and New York, which are not all that easy to obtain given those states' pre-approval requirements. You are able to take up to 10 free PDH courses at your convenience, so this is indeed a valuable benefit. (And, a friendly reminder, if you haven't taken your 10 free courses yet, you have until the end of the year to do so for the current membership period.)

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](https://www.asce.org).

## YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Mohamed Asker, Forum Editor

Dennis Wilson, Forum President 2021-22

McCormick Taylor, dewilson@mccormicktaylor.com

### DIVERSITY BIKE TOUR November 6

YMF's **Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee** held a 3.75-mile bike tour through some of the diverse communities in Philadelphia. The tour stopped at eight different locations to highlight and discuss 14 people and places that helped to shape the city we know today!

### URBAN FARM VOLUNTEER AND SERVICE DAY November 20

YMF participated in a day of hands-on building, cleaning, and gardening with **Philly Urban Creators** at the **Life Do Grow Farm**. Volunteers assisted with gardening tasks and laying the groundwork for an urban harvest! Life Do Grow Farm is an Urban Revitalization project in North Philadelphia.

### CivE CLUB

The **2021-22 Civil Engineering (CivE) Club** at the **Chester A. Arthur School** has officially started its 10th consecutive year for the Club! YMF is currently seeking the help of local Civil Engineers who would like to volunteer virtually as meeting hosts or presenters.

## HOLD THESE DATES

## ENGINEERS WEEK EVENTS SCHEDULED

The **Engineers' Club of Philadelphia**, through its **Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee**, will cite **Engineers Week 2022** on **February 17–26**. We have traditionally extended our local celebration beyond that recognized by **National Engineers Week** to include our kickoff event.

Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley will officially begin with the **Engineers Week Opening Dinner** on **Thursday, February 17** (two days before National E Week begins). At this event, we will introduce and formally induct the **Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year** and **Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year**, as well as highlight the various contributions of engineers and engineering students. All Engineers Week award and scholarship recipients will be cited at the Dinner.

The **Young Engineers Social** will be conducted during Engineers Week (date to be determined). This is a networking and social event to cite the newly-inducted **Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year**.

Two candidates for this year's Engineer of the Year honors have been nominated, and the election will take place in late November. We will provide an update on this in the January edition of *THE NEWS*.

Please note this information in your calendar and plan to participate. More details on venues and pricing will be included in future updates. It is intended to conduct these events as in-person activities and this will be subject to restrictions and guidelines on social distancing as they are in effect at the start of the new year. A decision will be made at that time and information will be provided on the events accordingly.

Please visit the Engineers' Club website, [www.engrclub.org](http://www.engrclub.org), for more information and updates.

**Life is a series of commas, not periods.**

— Matthew McConaughey

## 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 these folks and their helpers 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](mailto:info@asce-philly.org) or through our **Section Secretary, Jesse Gormley** (contact information is provided on page 2).

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History and Heritage – *Joe Natale*

Humphrey Fund – *John Zarsky*

Membership – *Kevin Brown*

Mural – *Angelo Waters*

Nominating (for Board Positions) – *Briana Pampuch*

Program – *Moe Elghawy*

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Environmental and Water Resources – *Eric Lindhult*

Structural Engineering Institute – *James Greco*

Transportation & Development Institute – *Bill Thomsen*

Utility Engineering and Surveying Institute – *Nha Truong*

Younger Member Forum – *Dennis Wilson*



# ASCE DAY – AND A LITTLE “SWEETENER” AS WELL...

## Federal Infrastructure Legislation Advances

On November 5, ASCE celebrated our 169th “birthday,” in case you missed it. ASCE was founded on this date in 1852, making it one of the oldest technical societies in the United States. And we received a nice birthday present, coincidentally, as the House of Representatives, after considerable debate and discussion, passed the long-awaited federal infrastructure legislation proposed by President Biden several months ago. On November 15, the President signed this historic bill, formalizing our country’s infrastructure path and program.

Our **Section’s Government Affairs Chair, Spencer Finch**, offered this report for your knowledge, and in case you managed to miss ASCE Day (and we know we’re all busy...)

November 5 was a great day for the nation, as the US House of Representatives passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) – right on ASCE Day 2021, the day we celebrate the Society’s founding on November 5, 1852!

The IIJA is the culmination of decades of advocacy by ASCE staffers and members who worked tirelessly to educate Congress about the role infrastructure plays in supporting the economy and our quality of life – with such tools as our Infrastructure Report Cards and our Legislative Fly-Ins to Washington and our state capitals.

This \$1.2 trillion bill is a historic piece of legislation that will have monumental impacts on the economy, public safety, global competitiveness, and each American’s well-being. Passage of this five-year bill proves once again that the country can lead with infrastructure.

With this legislation, the federal government will restore their critical partnership with cities and states to modernize our nation’s roads, bridges, transit systems, drinking water pipes, school facilities, broadband, ports, airports and more. Without a strong federal partner, local projects that are community lifelines have hung in the balance, oftentimes being paused or outright cancelled due to funding uncertainties.

We urge all ASCE members in our region to thank your US Representatives who voted for the bill – and to continue engaging with all representatives, advocating for common sense solutions that can bring all Americans together.

To add to this, your Editor suggests that you should also be contacting our state representatives to take action on funding legislation for PennDOT and our transit agencies, which are very much dependent on the federal funding participation that the state funding can match and stretch to cover transportation needs. The ASCE PA Council is, as you read this, getting this point across in our legislative meetings both already conducted and scheduled.

### Schuylkill Yards Development

*Continued from page 3*

connections to SEPTA transit and Regional Rail that serve the metro area and as well as Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor and intercity links and NJ Transit’s rail service to Atlantic City and South Jersey, it is easily accessible. Thus, commuters making the “traditional” trips to the area from other locations, as well as reverse commuters, will have convenient travel options. The nearby expressways and arterials provide good access alternatives as well, and the nearby Schuylkill River Trail accommodates the growing walking and bicycling communities. These vital transportation links help accomplish the intent of the design, to provide a connection of people with the community and the Drexel and Penn educational facilities nearby, and to allow the uniting of visionary brands with driven, entrepreneurial-minded concerns. The presentation team outlined the project’s master plan status and the key challenges and impacts associated with the placement of a development of this magnitude into an already busy location.

With a number of insightful questions submitted, the Q & A portion that ended the presentation was very lively on its own and good responses were ably provided by the presenters.

President Pampuch wrapped up the session and thanked the speakers for a good and thorough session on this effort.

The full presentation will be made available on our webinar library on Teachable.com, an online platform where we will upload our recorded PDH-worthy webinars, which can be watched at one’s own pace and time to earn your PDH.

**Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.**

— St. Francis of Assisi

## SECTION AGENCY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

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, along with several other benefits.

Additionally, last season we began our informal recognition of government and quasi-government agencies for the assistance they have provided us, through volunteer assistance and award recognition among other things. Our Agency Partners’ logos are shown below.





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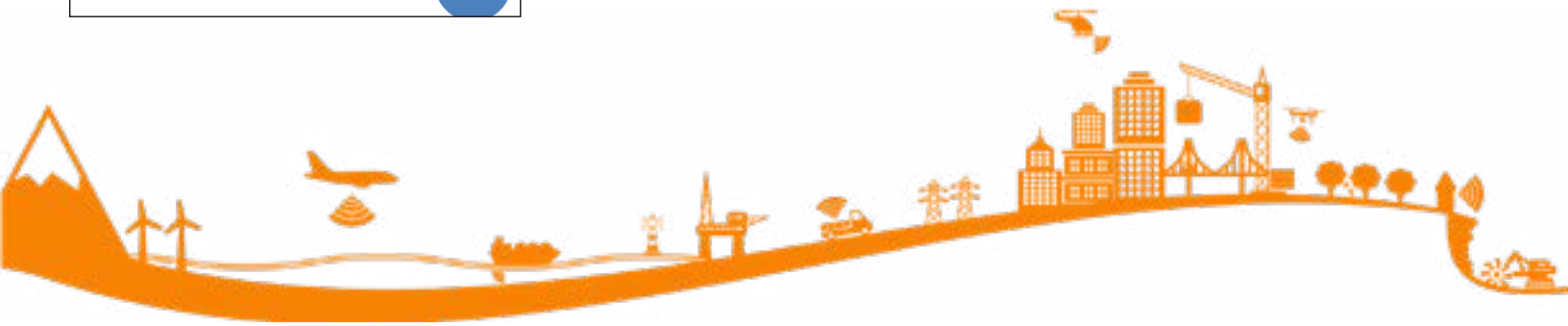
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