



**ASCE**  
PHILADELPHIA SECTION

**THE**

**NEWS**

Vol 97-5

**Our 112th Year**

January 2025

The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE



**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.



<http://www.asce-philly.org>

National ASCE Central Number:  
1-800-548-ASCE • Toll Free.

NON OMNIA POSSUMUS OMNES (WE CANNOT ALL DO EVERYTHING)

**SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE  
2024–25**

We are “rounding the bend”, as they say, with our Section Meeting program for the remainder of the season. It continues in development as we line up speakers, topics and venues for what we hope will be interesting and informative meetings. 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.

Our schedule of meetings for the **2025** “half” of this season is:

**February** – to be determined, information will be provided in a coming e-blast

**March 13** – Maggiano’s Center City; DRPA Capital Program Update

**April 10** – multi-topic break-out sessions; topics and location to be determined

**May 15** – Spring Social; The Lucy

**ACADEMIC PARTNERS IN THE NEWS**

You may have heard that **Dr. Vicki Brown** of **Widener University** has decided to retire after more than four decades of dedicated services at the University’s Civil Engineering Department. Throughout her career, students have always been at the heart of her work. In her recent reflections, she shared her pride in the impact her work has had on her students’ lives. As many of us also know, she was very diligent in making sure her students participated in our Section Meetings, even those that were not “Widener Night”.

We thank Vicki for her unwavering commitment to her students and her strong support of our Section. We wish you a happy and healthy very-much-well-deserved retirement!

**JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING**

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section  
Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE)

**WEDNESDAY, January 15, 2025**

Crowne Plaza Hotel Philadelphia-Valley Forge, 260 Mall Boulevard (across from King of Prussia Plaza), King of Prussia, PA

**COCKTAILS:** 6:00 PM, Dinner 6:45 PM, Meeting Presentation follows

**SUBJECT: Ridge Pike Improvement Program**

**SPEAKERS:** **Matt Edmond**, County of Montgomery; **Lauren Sendel-Grant**, County of Montgomery; **Matthew Hickson**, TPD, Inc.

**PLEASE NOTE: RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION, ASHE.** The Philadelphia Section will NOT be accepting any reservations for this meeting. Reservations can be made electronically through the ASHE Delaware Valley Section website, [www.delvalleyashe.pro](http://www.delvalleyashe.pro). Electronic payment can be made through this site as well. Checks are accepted and can be sent via the instructions on the site or brought to the registration table at the meeting. Reservations for this meeting are expected to be opened in late December and will be noted in our e-blast being distributed in that time frame.

Dinner costs are \$75, with a \$25 price available for government agency employees and students. Reservations are due by Thursday, January 9. No refunds will be made for cancellations.

We encourage you to reserve ahead to ensure a place at the meeting. Walk-ins will be accepted on a space-available basis. **THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE.** This has always been a popular meeting and a significant turnout is expected.

The Ridge Pike Improvement Project is a four-part program currently underway to provide long-awaited improvements, including roadway reconstruction, widening, drainage, and modernized traffic signals, along the Ridge Pike corridor from the Philadelphia County Line/Northwestern Avenue to Belvoir Road, covering Whitmarsh and Plymouth Townships. The initial (southernmost) segment was completed in November, with another section currently under construction, and two in the design stage. This presentation will provide an update on the overall program.

This meeting will be eligible for Professional Development Hour (PDH) credit.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we approach the mid-point of my term as President, it's a good time for us all to reflect on all the great things we've done, thus far, and look ahead and plan to achieve the goals we put in place. In addition to the two phenomenal dinner meeting topics coordinated by **Jesse Gormley**, our President-Elect, **Tom Kulesher**, our Treasurer, connected ASCE to the **Heights Program**, providing us the opportunity to speak with local students about the field of Civil Engineering.

Earlier this term, the Board voted to create a JEDI Task Committee which will look at the Section's operations and methods of communication and provide recommendations to the Board on the improvements that can be made as it relates to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and I'm happy to report the committee held its first meeting and they're beginning their assessments. I want to express my sincere gratitude to **Archie Filshill, Bob Wright, Catherine Chia-Calabria, Dennis Wilson, Kevin Malley, Monise Moses, Ruben David, and Stephen Shiffer** (all but Monise are in the photo at right) for representing our



Section at the Manna Kitchen where they volunteered their time working with Manna chefs and other local volunteers preparing over 650 meals for local individuals with serious illnesses.

Looking ahead, we have so much more in store for you; we'll have our joint dinner meeting with ASHE in January, the Younger Member Forum will be having its Annual Winter Social on Monday, January 27th at McGillin's, we'll be back at Maggiano's for our March dinner meeting, and we'll be having our annual Philadelphia Section Spring Social on May 15th at the Lucy. We'll continue to connect local students with opportunities in our industry through the Heights program and I'm hoping to get a construction site tour set up for the spring.

Right now, though, I hope everyone can take a break, focus on you and your family, and maybe do some reflection and goal setting of your own.

Kevin Brown Jr., PE, M.ASCE  
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section

# THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

As we approach the midpoint of the season, we note that we have 16 firms participating in our Section sponsorship program. We extend our special and collective THANKS to each sponsor for their financial commitment and support.

Sponsor's business cards are printed in each edition of *THE NEWS*. Their logos are displayed in a special Sponsors section of our website, where we provide direct links to their own sites 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*.

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

## ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2024–25 SEASON

### PRESIDENT

Kevin Brown, Gannett Fleming TranSystems

### PRESIDENT ELECT

Jesse Gormley, Pennoni

### VICE PRESIDENT

Dennis Wilson, McCormick Taylor

### SECRETARY

Danielle Schroeder, Gannett Fleming TranSystems

### TREASURER

Thomas Kulesher, JMT

### ASSISTANT TREASURER

Timothy Abel, Amtrak

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Katrina Budischak, McCormick Taylor

### DIRECTORS

Darren Black, Jacobs, 2024-26

Nooraldean Dabdoub, TPD, 2023-25

Ajin Fatima, Amtrak, 2023-25

Archie Filshill, Aero Aggregates, 2024-26

Sean McCreech, STV, 2024-26

Caroline Voigtsberger, Pennoni, 2023-25

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Joseph Natale, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Mohamed Elghawy, TPD

Briana Pampuch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

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.

*We thank these folks for their commitment and service.*

### Contact Us:

#### President — Kevin Brown, PE

Gannett Fleming TranSystems  
1717 Arch Street, Suite 700  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
[kbrown@transystems.com](mailto:kbrown@transystems.com)

#### Secretary — Danielle Schroeder, PE

Gannett Fleming TranSystems  
10 Penn Center  
1801 Market Street, Suite 2600  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
[dani.civileng@gmail.com](mailto:dani.civileng@gmail.com)

### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

#### Editor of *THE NEWS*

Robert Wright

#### Section Outreach

Jesse Gormley, Dennis Wilson

#### SEND COPY TO:

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

**COPY DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY 2025 ISSUE  
JANUARY 17, 2025**

## HOLD THESE DATES

# ENGINEERS WEEK EVENTS SCHEDULED

The **Engineers' Club of Philadelphia**, through its **Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee**, will cite **Engineers Week 2025 (February 13-23)**. We have traditionally extended our local celebration beyond that recognized by National Engineers Week to include our kickoff event. This marks the 73rd year of local Engineers Week celebrations.

Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley will officially begin with the Engineers Week Opening Dinner on **Thursday, February 13** (two days before National E Week begins) at the Hilton Philadelphia at Penns Landing. At this event, we will introduce and formally induct the **Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year, Dr. Zenaida Gephardt** of Rowan University, and the **Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year**, to be named shortly, 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 on **Tuesday, February 18**. This is a networking and social event to cite the newly-inducted Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year.

**Please note** this information in your calendar and plan to participate. More details on venues and pricing will be included in future updates.

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

## FUTURE CITY – HELP NEEDED

As it has done for a number of years, the **Future City Philadelphia** program is conducting its annual competition and will hold the regional finals on **January 18** at **Archbishop Carroll High School** in Radnor. Mentors and various volunteers for the competition, including judges, evaluators and hosts, are needed. Please visit [www.futurecityphilly.org](http://www.futurecityphilly.org) for more information and details on this.

Over 50 local schools are scheduled to be part of the competition this time around and our Section's Younger Member Forum will be among those groups offering a Special Award as we have done for a number of years.

## SECTION AWARDS – NOMINATIONS OPEN

As we typically do this time of year, we are opening our Section's 2025 Awards Program for nominations. These allow us to recognize Section members and others for their contributions to the Civil Engineering profession. All awards will be presented at the **Spring Social**, scheduled for **May 15**.

We encourage you to submit nominations for those deserving individuals who should be recognized for their various contributions, achievements, and career milestones, appropriately.

We will have the nomination form available on our website for your use. Please download it and complete it if you have a nomination you would like to submit, then send it to us as indicated on the form.

### GUIDELINES/RULES

Nominations must be received by **Friday, January 31**. Nominations should be submitted on the form on our website.

Individuals may be nominated for awards by a member in any grade of membership. Nominators are NOT required to be members of the Philadelphia Section but must be ASCE members in good standing.

Individuals may receive only one award in a single year, but may be nominated for more than one award in a single year.

Award recipients are subject to the approval of the Section's Board of Directors.

Awards are presented only during years in which, in the judgement of the Selection Committee or the Board, there is at least one suitable candidate.

The Selection Committee, at its discretion, may nominate a candidate or an alternate for each award for Board consideration.

The Selection Committee will recommend to the Board whether the recipient should also be nominated for applicable National or Regional awards by the Section.

A nominee for an award MUST be a member in good standing of the Philadelphia Section in the year in

which the nomination is made, with three exceptions — for Educator of the Year, Government Service Award, and Philadelphia History and Heritage Award need not be members of ASCE and/or the Philadelphia Section.

### AWARDS

The Section has a total of 14 awards which cover various specialty areas. In addition, the Section President can nominate an individual for the Presidential Award at his/her discretion. The awards are as follows:

Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year  
Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer of the Year  
Philadelphia Government Engineer of the Year  
Philadelphia Young Government Engineer of the Year  
Government Service Award  
Educator of the Year  
Philadelphia History and Heritage Award  
Community Outreach and Service Award

#### Individual Technical Awards:

Civil Engineering Manager of the Year  
Construction Engineer of the Year  
Geotechnical Engineer of the Year  
Structural Engineer of the Year  
Transportation Engineer of the Year  
Water Resources Engineer of the Year

We are additionally offering a Project of the Year award/competition. This is intended to recognize a Philadelphia Section member and his/her project team who have served in a major role on an innovative, challenging, unique, and/or complex project located in the geographic boundaries of the Section (the five county Philadelphia area). If you wish to nominate a project, please read the rules and criteria, which are posted on our website along with the nomination form.

If you have any questions on the nomination process or would like more information, please contact **Bob Wright**, Committee Chair, at **215-433-1666**, or via e-mail at [newseditor@asce-philly.org](mailto:newseditor@asce-philly.org).

## SPONSORS HONORED AT WTS GALA

The Philadelphia Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) conducted its Sapphire Awards/45th Anniversary Gala on December 5. The Chapter's 2024 awards were presented to recipients at the event, with several of our Section Sponsors among those cited. These include:

- **Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award** – *Gray 30th Street Station Redevelopment*, with Amtrak (Section Agency Partner) sharing in this distinction
- **Employer of the Year** – *TPD* (Section Sponsor)
- **Member of the Year Award** – *Faye Majekodunmi, PE*, Amtrak (Section Agency Partner)
- **Philadelphia Award** – *Chinatown Stitch*, with *McCormick Taylor* (Section Sponsor) and *DVRPC* (Section Agency Partner) among the honorees
- **Woman of the Year Award** – *Jennifer Waters, PE*, Urban Engineers (Section Sponsor)

## TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES...

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

As a reminder, the "day of reckoning" is a-comin'... your 2025 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).

## N-ASCE\*

### AT UN CLIMATE TALKS, "SEWAGE" BEER FROM SINGAPORE HIGHLIGHTS WATER SCARCITY AND INNOVATIONS

In the sprawling pavilion section of the United Nations COP 29 climate talks in mid-November in Baku, Azerbaijan, where countries, nonprofits and tech companies use big, flashy signs to get the attention of the thousands of people walking through, small aqua and purple beverage cans sit conspicuously on a counter at the Singapore display. Those who approach learn that the cans are beer, a brand call NEWBrew, and free for anybody who asks. But there is something not everybody who cracks one open finds out right away, if at all, as the beer is made with treated wastewater.

NEWBrew is made in Singapore with NEWater, the name of treated wastewater that's part of a national campaign to conserve every drop in one of the world's most water-starved places. The drink, which some attendees jokingly call "sewage beer," is one of many examples of climate- and environment-related innovations on display during this year's climate talks. Highlighting the use of treated wastewater underscores one of the world's most pressing problems as climate change accelerates: providing drinking water to a growing population.

For years, Singapore has been a leader in water management and innovations. The city-state island of 6 million people in Southeast Asia, one of the most densely populated countries, has no natural water sources. In addition to water imports from Malaysia, the other pillars of its national strategy are catchment, desalination and recycling. Authorities have said they need to ramp up all water sources, as demand is expected to double by 2065.

While drinking treated wastewater is a novelty for many at the climate conference, for Singaporeans it's nothing new. National campaigns, from water conservation pleas to showing the wastewater recycling process, go back decades. In 2002, then-Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong was famously photographed drinking a bottle of NEWater after a tennis match, done to normalize its use.

Ong Tze-Ch'in, chief executive of the Public Utilities Board, Singapore's national water agency, said NEWBrew was developed by a local brewery in 2018. The idea was to showcase treated wastewater at the country's biennial International Water Week. The beer was next produced in 2022, 2023, then again this year. "It's part of the acceptance of the use of recycled water, which in general is a difficult topic," said Ong. "We did many things to drive it."

And is he happy with how it turned out? "I chose this flavor," said Ong, adding that he was part of the group that worked with the brewery for this year's version, a "modern pilsner." "You know, beer is always very subjective," he added with a laugh.

After attending a panel on water management at the Singapore pavilion, Peter Rummel, director of infrastructure policy advancement at Bentley Systems, which creates Infrastructure Engineering software, stepped up to the counter and got a beer. Rummel told onlookers he was in a good position to judge beer, as he hailed from Munich, Germany, home to the Oktoberfest beer festival. "It's fresh, light, cool. It has a nice flavor," said Rummel, while looking at the can.

Wee-Tuck Tan, managing director of the local brewery, The Brewerkz Group, said they have made about 5,000 liters, or roughly 15,000 cans, for each edition of NewBrew. He said they use the same process as with other beers, and the cost is also similar, about 7 Singaporean dollars (around \$5 U.S.) per can when bought in a supermarket. He believes the beer has shifted how some in Singapore view NEWater.

As problems with water scarcity grow, there is increasing embrace of the use of treated wastewater, said Saroj Kumar Jha, the World Bank Group's global water department director, who participated in the water management panel in the Singapore pavilion. Traveling to over 50 countries in the last two years, he said leaders have frequently told him it's important not to use the term "wastewater," and instead call it "used water."

Just a word to the wise, however, if you put beer on your list of gift wants for this season, you might want to be a little more specific on what you would like.

Thanks to AP for this information.

\* N-ASCE – not always something concerning engineering...

## A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON TO ALL (WITH OUR ANNUAL LAYM\* ...)

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Section extend our very best wishes to all Section Members, their families and friends for a safe, enjoyable and memorable holiday season and a prosperous and productive 2025.

We at *THE NEWS* would also like to send the same good wishes. For what might now be an official tradition, we have our own unique and unusual way of offering this, as you are no doubt (and painfully) aware, with our **Lightly Amusing Yuletide Message\*** (with the maybe-unfortunate but quite descriptive acronym of LAYM...). In the spirit of tis' better to give than to receive, we continue to try to give you the best we can in each edition, information you can use and otherwise, and we hope you receive it in the spirit that it is presented.

It seems as though every year we at *THE NEWS* get to the time that the January issue is rearing its head around the corner and then start having a bit of a mental debate on whether to continue this tradition. What makes this even more interesting is that there is only one person in this debate (your Editor) and with "mental" being part of this, we know it will be a short debate... But then it always seems something happens and we get inspired, so that may be good news or bad news for you, the reader, but... As those of you who regularly pay attention to all things *THE NEWS* know, we also tend to give thought to a contest for the LAYM, but thought better of it, especially once we got inspired, so we cranked this one out. Accordingly, for your holiday enjoyment, this year's LAYM is below.

As usual, it in no way reflects the views or opinions of our Section. And also as usual, outrages can be registered at [newseditor@asce-philly.org](mailto:newseditor@asce-philly.org).

Quite a bit happened this year, some good, some bad  
We finally got to have the very-long-in-coming election  
New President and new ideas, we'll leave it at that  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

If nothing else, the election hype is now over and done  
Hopefully our new leaders will give us good direction  
Whether promises made will be kept, we shall see  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

As the calendar moves forward and the year wraps up  
We give things some deep thought and introspection  
And we'll wish everyone good tidings and peace on earth  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

It's time to celebrate, decorate, and deck the halls  
See our family and friends and reinforce the connection  
Sing carols, get festive, and confuse the pets with indoor trees  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

From our Section leaders we happily offer good wishes  
Time to put aside work stuff, calculations, beam deflection  
We extend all the best to our members as 2024 winds down  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

We give the gift that keeps giving all year with *THE NEWS*  
Even things that somehow get to print and survive rejection  
Good thing our Editor has somewhat low and loose standards  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

We trust you've been good and will get what you hoped for  
Those who were not will get coal, good for convection  
And maybe some incentive to do better in the coming year  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

Good holidays, happy new year, we wish you the best  
More work will be coming, more proposals and selection  
But for now, after being very busy all year, a short respite  
Happy Merry Everything from our Section

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, whatever event you celebrate  
We hope you get some good gifts and toys to add to your collection  
May you enjoy them greatly and may they bring you big smiles  
And hopefully we'll get a better message from the President of our Section

**Happy Merry Everything 2025!**

## YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Laurel Welch, Forum Editor  
Assunta Daprano, Forum President 2024-25  
AECOM, [adaprano.outreach@gmail.com](mailto:adaprano.outreach@gmail.com)

### Campus K-12 Outreach

November 18

YMF volunteers spoke with 7th and 8th graders at **Ad Prima Charter School** in Overbrook. The afternoon started with a presentation about various field of Civil Engineering and how to become a Civil Engineer. We then transitioned to our activity, building bridges out of straw, and delved deeper into structural engineering and truss bridge design. Our session of almost 40 students broke into small groups to design and build their bridges, before testing them to see how many pennies the bridge could hold in a cup on the bridge deck. Students were able to share where they noticed the most bending and how they might reinforce that area if they could do it again. Thanks to our volunteers Assunta, Kevin, Tyler, Yuki, Kerianne, and Elvira!



### Christian to Crescent SRDC Construction Tour

November 26

YMF hosted a construction site tour of the cable-supported bridge connecting the Schuylkill River Trail from the current end of the Trail near Christian Street

to the Grays Ferry Crescent. **Joe Syrnick** of SRDC (and Past Section President) gave us a detailed tour through the site, explaining aspects of the design and construction of the bridge. Thank you to everyone in attendance and to Joe for being so generous with his time and expertise!



### Joint Mixer With ASHE

December 3

ASHE Delaware Valley's Young Member Committee (YMC) teamed with YMF to hold a joint Winter Mixer event at Puddlers Kitchen & Tap in Bridgeport to foster collaboration between the two societies. Eighteen total members from both societies got together over appetizers, dinner, and drinks to reconnect with peers and forge new friendships. The night also saw the award of generous raffle prizes and donate non-perishable goods in support of Philabundance.



# DECEMBER JOINT "MULTI-SOCIETY MEETING"

December 10, 2024

Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown

## Aviation Programs

The Engineers' Club once again sponsored its annual Multi-Society Meeting, with this year's entry focusing on local aviation programs and funding. In addition to our Section, the Club enlisted the sponsorship of the **Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS)**, **Philadelphia Chapter**, the **American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE)**, **Delaware Valley Section**, and the **Institute of Transportation Engineers, Mid-Atlantic Section (MASITE)**. Over 100 members of these groups gathered for lunch in the Sheraton's rooftop ballroom, with the dreary fog that day obscuring any skyline views of Center City but putting the focus on the speakers and program.

**Vince DeFlavia**, Engineers' Club President, opened the meeting and welcomed the Marines representing the **Toys4Tots Marines** program to inform all on the effort. This meeting continued the tradition of inviting attendees to bring a toy for donation to this cause and the Marines collected the donated toys to give to deserving children at upcoming events.

President DeFlavia provided opportunities for short reports from the co-sponsoring societies and then brought Past Club President **Bob Wright** to the podium to introduce the presenters.

Three speakers provided input on their agency's facilities and programs. **Brian Gearhart**, Assistant Manager of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Harrisburg Airports District Office, was first up to walk the crowd through the funding and grant programs overseen and directed by that office

as well as some current programs available through the IJA/BIL legislation. **Benjamin Clendaniel**, Director, Airport Operations of the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA), followed with a brief overview of the agency's airports in New Jersey and Delaware and programs underway and planned for facility upgrades and improvements. Last on the agenda was **Api Appulingam**, Chief Development Officer of the Philadelphia Department of Aviation, who brought the attendees up to speed on planned projects at Philadelphia International Airport and Northeast Philadelphia Airport as well as the Department's master plan and intensive capital program. (The presenters are seated in this order in the photo above.)

Following the presentations, Bob Wright returned to moderate the question/answer portion of the meeting. President DeFlavia wrapped up the event and thanked the speakers for their efforts.



## SPONSORS IN THE NEWS

### Promotions at Urban

**Urban Engineers, Inc.**, a multidisciplinary firm specializing in planning, engineering design, environmental, and construction services, announced several promotions to its leadership team in late November.

As Business Leader for Pennsylvania, **Jeff Roken** will lead the Pennsylvania management and technical staff, focus on developing and maintaining client and teaming partner relationships, and participate in the delivery of Urban's projects to ensure results align with our mission to be our clients' first choice by providing consistent, quality services.

Since joining Urban Engineers in 2020, **Garry Etter** has brought 35 years of technical, project management, and executive leadership experience in consulting engineering. In his new role as

Business Leader for the Northeast US, he will expand his leadership to include additional jurisdictions, further strengthening our team's impact and reach.

As Market Leader for Aviation, **Chris Gubeno** will drive strategic business development initiatives for the firm's aviation endeavors in facilities design and construction, infrastructure design and construction, and program management oversight. Throughout his 34-year career, he has worked on impactful projects nationwide at general aviation, corporate, and air carrier airports and military airfields and bases.

**Jim Bilella** will bring over 32 years of experience in design and construction as the Market Leader for Rail and Transit. In this role, he will drive strategic business development initiatives for the firm's rail and transit endeavors in facilities design and construction, infrastructure design and construction, and program management oversight.

With 25 years of consulting engineering experience, **Angelo Waters** (Past Section President) is the Business Leader for Urban's Integrated Engineering Services. He leads a multidisciplinary team of professionals across environmental, ports and waterways, construction services, land development, structures, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineering. He and his team are dedicated to delivering comprehensive project management and support solutions that enhance Urban's internal operational units and serve our diverse and valued clients.

**Laura Frein** is the Business Leader for Urban's Marketing and Sales department. With nearly 20 years of experience in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction industry, she will oversee business development, marketing, communications, and proposal development.

We wish these individuals good luck with their new responsibilities.

## 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, we have established an 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.



# VIP Title Sponsors



**TPD**  
An ENR 500 Top Design Firm serving the eastern United States since 1989  
TPDinc.com

**MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER**



**BD**  
REFINED RESULTS



**GANNETT FLEMING** | **TRANSYSTEMS**



**Pennoni** SMART SOLUTIONS  
Applying today's innovations to make tomorrow's world smarter.  
www.pennoni.com



**VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

**VILLANOVA URBAN STORMWATER PARTNERSHIP**

Advancing the evolving field of sustainable stormwater management and fostering the development of public and private partnerships through research.

**BECOME A MEMBER**  
www.villanova.edu/vusp



**McCORMICK TAYLOR**

**SHAPING OUR COMMUNITIES FOR OVER 75 YEARS**

Proud to be named a Top Workplace in the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Region  
mccormicktaylor.com



**JBC ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Project Management  
Construction Management  
Construction Inspection  
Disputes Resolution

Success is in the details. We handle them for you.  
610-992-9090 www.jbcassociates.com WBEDB



**URBAN ENGINEERS**  
urbanengineers.com  
215.922.8080

**AERO** <sup>TM</sup>

**AGGREGATES**

Ultra-Lightweight Aggregate  
Made from 100% Post-Consumer Glass

**HNTB** The HNTB Companies  
Infrastructure Solutions  
www.hntb.com



Allentown | Harrisburg | King of Prussia  
Philadelphia | Pittsburgh

Integrated Engineering and Environmental Solutions

**LANGAN**  
ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
215.491.6500 www.langan.com

**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



**Bowman**  
1515 Market Street  
Suite 1360  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
215.433.1660  
bowman.com

Transportation Solutions for Better Communities

**CDM Smith**  
cdmsmith.com

listen. think. deliver.

<b>HARRISBURG</b> 3605 Vartan Way, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17110 1.717.541.4001	<b>WAYNE</b> 993 Old Eagle School Road, Suite 408 Wayne, PA 19087 1.610.293.0450	<b>PHILADELPHIA</b> Two Penn Center Plaza, 1500 JFK Boulevard, Suite 1208 Philadelphia, PA 19102 1.215.636.0600
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**YOUR CARD CAN BE HERE!**

CONTACT US AT  
newseditor@asce-philly.org

**YOUR CARD CAN BE HERE!**

CONTACT US AT  
newseditor@asce-philly.org

**WILKINSON**  
DESIGN GROUP, LLC