



ASCE
PHILADELPHIA SECTION

THE

NEWS

Vol 97-7

Our 112th Year

March 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.



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NON OMNIA POSSUMUS OMNES (WE CANNOT ALL DO EVERYTHING)

SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2024–25

The “finish line” for our Section Meeting program is literally around the bend and in sight. With April’s date and location on the schedule at this point, the one remaining Section event will be the **Spring Social**, which will be held on **May 15** at **The Lucy** in Center City.

E-mail blasts will continue to be sent out on a regular basis to advise and remind of upcoming Technical Institute/Group events and registration deadlines.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Illig Receives Engineers Week Outstanding Service Award

As noted elsewhere in this edition, **Honorary Board Member Troy Illig** was cited by the Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia and its Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee as one of two recipients of the Outstanding Service Award to the Engineering community. This award was presented to Troy at the Engineers Week Opening Ceremony on February 13. This recognizes Troy’s nearly 40 years of experience in the Civil/Transportation Engineering field, which includes project management, environmental impact and survey work, traffic capacity assessment for planning and impact studies, bike lane conceptualization, traffic signal design, traffic and LRT vehicle interface, safety and accident analysis, roadway capacity analysis, and traffic control impact and improvement analysis. He has handled numerous projects in our area for PennDOT and the City of Philadelphia and has been involved in a number of efforts in other locales as well, including his hometown of Buffalo, New York. He has spent the majority of his career with a single firm, WSP and its predecessor companies, where he has been for over 36 years and has risen to the level of Vice President. This is quite unusual and admirable these days, but it is also a measure of and testament to his commitment to his profession and his field of expertise. He is a certified project manager and has been recognized as a professional associate at his firm.

This award additionally recognizes commitment to technical societies. Troy has been an active member of our Section and has served in several positions over the past few years, including Assistant Secretary (2013-14), Director (2014-18), Vice President (2018-19), and Honorary Director (2020-present). It was no surprise, however, that when one of our Directors had to step down given an employment-related relocation, he was willing to fill in as a Director on an interim basis in 2023-24. He has handled the duties as our venue coordinator/contact for Dinner Meetings and the Annual

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MARCH DINNER MEETING

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

Maggiano’s Little Italy, 1201 Filbert Street (corner of 12th Street), Center City
Cocktails 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting Presentation Follows (approximately 7:30 PM)

SUBJECT: Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA) Capital Program and Projects Update

SPEAKER: Michael P. Venuto, PE, PLS, Chief Engineer, Delaware River Port Authority

RESERVATION DEADLINE – FRIDAY, MARCH 7. The cost per attendee is \$50, with a half-price (\$20) cost for government agency employees and students, for reservations received by this deadline.

Reservations can be made through our website (www.asce-philly.org) and paid via PayPal or by check. This option will NOT be available after the reservation deadline. Checks, made payable to “Philadelphia Section ASCE”, will be accepted at the reservation table at the door as an option to electronic payment. Reservations received after the deadline and “walk-ups” without prior reservations paying at the door may be subject to a higher charge and acceptance on a space-available/standby basis.

All registrations are final. Due to commitments with our event venues, cancellations or no-shows will be invoiced for the full cost of the event. Registrants are able to transfer their registrations to others without penalty.

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE. Walk-ins and anyone without a reservation will be handled on a space-available basis.

As always, guests will be welcome to attend the presentation without dinner at no charge. This will be subject to room capacity constraints.

ACCESS AND PARKING: Maggiano’s is a short walk from SEPTA’s Jefferson Regional Rail station and a half-block from bus routes, the Subway-Surface Trolleys and the Market-Frankford Line on Market Street. There is a parking garage directly above the restaurant for which validation can be offered for a reduced price.

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APRIL SECTION MEETING

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

Inn at Swarthmore, 12 S. Chester Road, Swarthmore

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Just like most of you, I'm still on a Super Bowl LIX high! I want to shout out the Philadelphia Eagles for bringing the Lombardi Trophy back to Philadelphia.

Recently, members of the Philadelphia Section and the Younger Member Forum's boards attended the Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) in Memphis, TN. While we were there, we had the opportunity to connect with new folks and

reconnect with familiar faces all while fine-tuning our leadership skills. This Conference also provided attendees the space to network with members within one's own region, so we enjoyed getting to strengthen our bond with our Region 2 colleagues. The Younger Members host an awards ceremony at the conference as well, and I'm proud to share that the Philadelphia Section's Younger Member Forum received the **Outstanding Younger Member Group Award** and Section Member, **Matthew Reese, PE, AICP**, received the **Outstanding Younger Member in JEDI Activities Award**. Congratulations to the YMF and keep doing great work for the Society and our industry!

We've also been maintaining our connection with the Heights program as we've recently visited Northeast High School and spoke to students who are in the program along with students in the school's Engineering Club. As we continue to connect with local students, I'm confident that the future of our industry will be in good hands if we can just dedicate time to help them navigate some of the barriers they may face between high school and entering the Civil Engineering workforce.



Thank you and I look forward to seeing you at our next dinner meeting on March 13 at Maggiano's in Center City!

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



MARCH DINNER MEETING

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The Delaware River Port Authority, a bi-state agency, owns and operates four Delaware River bridges (Benjamin Franklin, Walt Whitman, Commodore Barry and Betsy Ross) in our area as well as the Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO) high-speed rail service between South Jersey and Philadelphia. DRPA is also involved in promotion and administration of several port facilities for ocean-going cargo. These transportation assets are supported by a \$750 million five-year capital program ensuring that they are maintained, improved and protected for the benefit of the citizens that DRPA serves. Mr. Venuto directs the Engineering program that serves and operates these assets. He will provide an overview of the current Program as well as an update on ongoing projects on these facilities. Among these are recent service-life extension improvements on the Commodore Barry and Ben Franklin Bridges, updates on PATCO, and the rehabilitation of the PATCO Franklin Square Station for an anticipated opening this year.

Mr. Venuto has been a dedicated public service employee for the past twenty-five years. He obtained his Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering from Rutgers University, an MBA from Lehigh University and a Bachelors degree Surveying Engineering Technology from the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He is a licensed Professional Engineer and licensed Professional Land Surveyor in the State of New Jersey. He is also a member of the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors, the American Society of Civil Engineers, WTS International and the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia.

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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.

We thank these folks for their commitment and service.

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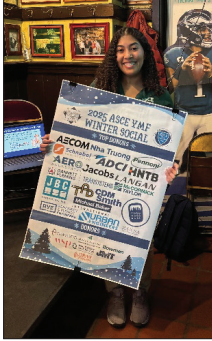
**COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL 2025 ISSUE
MARCH 14, 2025**

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Laurel Welch, Forum Editor
Assunta Daprano, Forum President 2024-25
AECOM, adaprano.outreach@gmail.com

ASCE Honors Nelson as a 2025 New Face of Civil Engineering

As noted elsewhere in this edition, **Kayla Nelson** of Schnabel Engineering has been cited by ASCE National as one of the **2025 New Faces of Civil Engineering**. Entrenched in Kayla's work is participation in professional societies and a passion for mentorship. She joined ASCE in 2017 and has since held a wide range of leadership positions within the organization and currently serves on the YMF Board as Treasurer, Committee on Student Members member, and DVGI director. Along with helping students navigate academic struggles, she also focuses on the challenges faced by women and people of color in the Engineering field.



Winter Social

January 27



YMF hosted its annual Winter Social at McGillin's Olde Ale House in Center City with over 130 attendees! It was a great evening to make new connections with fellow Young Civil Engineers and reconnect with our awesome network. Several amazing prizes were raffled off with all proceeds going to charity. A huge thank you to the generous local Engineering companies and organizations that donated this year which helped ensure a successful event. As a direct result of this year's Winter Social, YMF will donate \$6000 to local, non-profit organizations such as Future City, Hub of Hope, Friends of the Wissahickon, and the Life Do Grow Farm. Thank you to the planning committee for all their work putting this event together, which includes **Kayla Nelson, CJ Medora, Kirsten Kennedy** and **Alyssa Pizzi**.

Joint Engineers Week Happy Hour

February 12

YMF joined with the Delaware Valley Association of Structural Engineers (DVASE) Young Members Group to co-host an Engineers Week Happy Hour at Ladder 15! About 50 attendees participated in this event and networked with many new and

Continued on page 4

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ENGINEERS WEEK – AND MORE GOOD NEWS FOR OUR SECTION (ONCE AGAIN...)

Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley was cited from Thursday, February 13 through Saturday, February 22. While nationally it is observed starting on February 15, locally we extended it two days to work for our events, maybe just to keep everyone on their toes and paying attention. (?) In any event...

The Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee (DVEWC) events were popular and successful, as usual. These included the two main celebrations – the Opening Ceremony/Dinner, to kick off E Week, was held on February 13 at the Hilton Philadelphia Penns Landing Hotel, and was well attended with over 150 guests (the most that have been at this event in some time). Those in attendance welcomed **Dr. Zenaida Gephardt**, who was inducted as the **2025 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year**, and **Jaclyn Whelan**, the **2025 Young Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year**. The Young Engineers Social, conducted on February 18 at the Libertee Gardens in Fairmount, was similarly well attended.

As we know, the completion of this year's events only kicks off the planning for next year's. DVEWC, a committee of the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, is always in need of volunteers to assist in many of the activities surrounding Engineers Week. DVEWC has a need for your talents and skills in several diverse areas. If you are interested in volunteering or would like information on volunteer opportunities, please visit our website at www.enrgclub.org.

In the "more good news" area that the title of this article teased about a little, our Section was proud to support the successful nomination of **Troy Illig** as one of two recipients of the **Outstanding Service Award** that is presented as part of Delaware Valley Engineers Week. Troy was recognized for his outstanding service to the engineering community during his close-to-40-year career in our area. He serves as a Vice President and project manager at WSP in the firm's office in Center City and handles traffic and transportation projects. Please see the separate article on this which highlights Troy's many contributions both professionally and for our Section. We very much congratulate Troy on this honor!

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Continued from page 1

Spring Social, handling Dinner Meetings since 2014 and taking on the Spring Social arrangements starting in 2021. He continues in this role to date despite the many challenges these roles bring with them. This exemplifies his commitment in his handling of these challenging and complicated tasks for our Section.

For his ongoing commitment to both the Engineering profession and our Section, we are proud to congratulate Troy on this honor. Please see the photo on page 5.

Nelson Included in New Faces of Engineering

ASCE recently released its **2025 New Faces of Engineering** which highlights younger members who are just starting out in their Engineering careers. Among this year's group is Section Member **Kayla Nelson** of Schnabel Engineering, who is also an active member of our Younger Member Forum. As Kayla describes it, it all started with her mother. As Kayla was growing up, she would often watch her mother create complex, three-dimensional drawings. Fascinated by these intricate works, she wanted in. "I thought she was a genius," she remembered.

We are pleased to recognize Kayla's achievement on this. Please visit <https://www.asce.org/publications-and-news/civil-engineering-source/article/2025/02/11/meet-the-2025-new-faces-of-civil-engineering-professional> to read more of Kayla's story.



McInnes Profiled in Publication

Section Member **Sarah McInnes** was recently interviewed and profiled in *Deep Foundations*, the magazine of the **Deep Foundations Institute**. Please visit dfi.org/publications to read this interesting introspective from the publication's November/December 2024 edition and learn a little more about Sarah and her career path.

N-ASCE*

THE SECRETS OF THE DURABILITY OF CONCRETE DEVELOPED BY ANCIENT ROME ARE SLOWLY BEING REVEALED...

The ancient Romans were masters of building and engineering, perhaps most famously represented by the aqueducts. Those still functional marvels rely on a unique construction material, pozzolanic concrete, a spectacularly durable concrete that gave Roman structures their incredible strength. Even today, one of their structures, the Pantheon, still intact and nearly 2000 years old, holds the record for the world's largest dome of unreinforced concrete.

The properties of this concrete have generally been attributed to its ingredients, pozzolana, a mix of volcanic ash, named after the Italian city of Pozzuoli, where a significant deposit of it can be found, and lime. When mixed with water, the two materials can react to produce strong concrete. But that, as it turns out, is not the whole story. In 2023, an international team of researchers led by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology found that not only are the materials slightly different from what we may have thought, but the techniques used to mix them were also different.

The smoking guns were small, white chunks of lime that can be found in what seems to be otherwise well-mixed concrete. The presence of these chunks had previously been attributed to poor mixing or materials, but that did not make sense to materials scientist Admir Masic of MIT. "The idea that the presence of these lime clasts was simply attributed to low-quality control always bothered me," Masic noted. "If the Romans put so much effort into making an outstanding construction material, following all of the detailed recipes that had been optimized over the course of many centuries, why would they put so little effort into ensuring the production of a well-mixed final product? There has to be more to this story."

Masic and the team, led by MIT Civil Engineer Linda Seymour, carefully studied 2000-year-old samples of Roman concrete from the archaeological site of Privernum in Italy. These samples were subjected to large-area scanning electron microscopy, energy-dispersive x-ray spectroscopy, powder X-ray diffraction, and confocal Raman imaging to gain a better understanding of the lime clasts. One of the questions in mind was the nature of the lime used.

The standard understanding of pozzolanic concrete is that it uses slaked lime. First, limestone is heated at high temperatures to produce a highly reactive caustic powder called quicklime, or calcium oxide. Mixing quicklime with water produces slaked lime, or calcium hydroxide: a slightly less reactive, less caustic paste. According to theory, it was this slaked lime that ancient Romans mixed with the pozzolana.

Based on the team's analysis, the lime clasts in their samples are not consistent with this method. Rather, Roman concrete was probably made by mixing the quicklime directly with the pozzolana and water at extremely high temperatures, by itself or in addition to slaked lime, a process the team calls "hot mixing" that results in the lime clasts. "The benefits of hot mixing are twofold," Masic observed. "First, when the overall concrete is heated to high temperatures, it allows chemistries that are not possible if you only used slaked lime, producing high-temperature-associated compounds that would not otherwise form. Second, this increased temperature significantly reduces curing and setting times since all the reactions are accelerated, allowing for much faster construction." And it has another benefit: The lime clasts give the concrete remarkable self-healing abilities.

When cracks form in the concrete, they preferentially travel to the lime clasts, which have a higher surface area than other particles in the matrix. When water gets into the crack, it reacts with the lime to form a solution rich in calcium that dries and hardens as calcium carbonate, gluing the crack back together and preventing it from spreading further.

This has been observed in concrete from another 2000-year-old site, the Tomb of Caecilia Metella, where cracks in the concrete have been filled with calcite. It could also explain why Roman concrete from seawalls built 2000 years ago has survived intact for millennia despite the ocean's constant battering.

The team tested their findings by making pozzolanic concrete from ancient and modern recipes using quicklime. They also made a control concrete without quicklime and performed crack tests. Sure enough, the cracked quicklime concrete was fully healed within two weeks, but the control concrete stayed cracked. The team is now working on

DUES – YOU MAY RISK FALLING BEHIND!!!

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

Dues for the current year were payable by January 1, but, if for whatever reason, you have not renewed, please avoid an interruption in your benefits and renew now. Choose the renewal option most convenient to you: online at [asce.org/renewal](https://www.asce.org/renewal) (the quickest and easiest way), by phone at **800-548-ASCE (-2723)**, or by mail, using the invoice sent to you last fall (if you still have it). Ensure a positive return on your investment in a Civil Engineering career by renewing with ASCE.

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.

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

Continued from previous column

commercializing their concrete as a more environmentally friendly alternative to current concretes.

"It's exciting to think about how these more durable concrete formulations could expand not only the service life of these materials, but also how it could improve the durability of 3D-printed concrete formulations," Masic said.

Thanks to *Science Advances* for this information.

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

YMF – Joint Engineers Happy Hour

Continued from page 3

some familiar faces, and enjoyed sliders, soft pretzels, fried ravioli, and cheesesteak egg rolls (a Philly staple). YMF looks forward to future collaborations with DVASE YMG. Big thanks to Social Co-Chair **Gina Venuto** and DVASE Treasurer **Amanda Groggin** for organizing this wonderful event!

JANUARY "SPECIAL" SECTION MEETING

January 30, 2025

Maggiano's Little Italy, Center City

Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation

By Robert Wright, Editor

Many of our members look forward to our "home-base" Section dinner meetings at Maggiano's, which tend to be scheduled three times each season (October, November, March), with other months either covered by joint efforts sponsored by societies such as ASHE or the Engineers' Club or at a different location. With an opportunity presented to us last fall to have Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation Michael Carroll conduct a meeting, we certainly wanted to take the opportunity to get a status update on PennDOT. The caveat would be that this would need to accommodate the Secretary's schedule and piggyback on a planned visit to our area, thus the date and the timing (lunch) were "givens." Accordingly, we decided to take advantage of this and cobbled together a lunchtime meeting that would work with these constraints and in the process managed to find yet another excuse to visit Maggiano's, albeit for a lunchtime unanticipated "bonus" event, but still with



the usual great menu/entrée selections that we are able to enjoy at this location. Thus, those of us who literally plan our other meals of the meeting day to make sure we have sufficient capacity for the good food that will be offered (after all, we are engineers, so we know something about capacity, and your Editor has to claim at least partial complicity in this, hence the "us" in this description), a nearly-full room,

what we usually expect at these events, of over 80 attendees was there to hear what Secretary Michael Carroll had to report on current happenings at PennDOT.

President-Elect Jesse Gormley opened the meeting and got everyone settled into their seats, providing several announcements on upcoming events, and then handed the podium to Section Director Archie Filshill, who introduced Secretary Carroll. The Secretary offered some insight into his current duties and activities and how this often contrasted to his last position as an elected State Representative from his district in the Scranton area for many years. He advised on some initial reactions and preparations for potential changes in how federal funding may flow with the incoming federal administration and possible executive orders and actions that may impact funding. He also reminded the attendees and reiterated the recent successes with PennDOT projects being able to advance with the IIJA/BIL legislation passed three years ago, as well as continued development and openings of EV charging stations around Pennsylvania, among other recent and ongoing initiatives.

Several questions were posed by the attendees and were ably answered by Secretary Carroll.

President-Elect Gormley closed the meeting by thanking Secretary Carroll for taking the time for this presentation and presented him with the Section's speaker gift as a token of our appreciation for his effort.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

You may notice that we have a recent addition to our Sponsors group, pushing our current total of Section Sponsors to 17 total firms (!) taking part in this program this season. We thank our sponsors 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*, one of which you will find elsewhere in this edition.

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



Section Past President and Engineers Week Committee Deputy Chair Briana Pampuch presents Troy Illig with the Engineers' Club's Outstanding Service Award.

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.



Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig! And our annual LAME

It doesn't seem like it should be that time already again, but the "great day for the Irish", as the song goes, will be here shortly. And, to cite that great day, we at *THE NEWS* have provided our annual "Lightly Amusing Message from Eire" (also known as LAME) for your enjoyment for St. Pat's Day.

As you may recall, once not too long ago we conducted contests for this as well as our **Lightly Amusing Yuletide Message (LAYM)** for the Christmas season. Given the non-response (and we thought there were some budding poets out there in our Section, but none stepped forward), the staff of *THE NEWS* made an executive decision to no longer conduct such efforts. The consequence of this action is that we are forced to hand the creative pen to your Editor to come up with something. And this is something that gives us a little scare, as we never really know where he's going to go with that, but we do know that a six-pack is usually found for "inspiration" and the empties are duly recycled when the time comes, which basically describes the creative process.

We went back over our LAMEs from the past several years and in a number of cases we "reran" a few, so we thought we owed you something new, thus here it is (and even though it's new, we did cobble together a few things to create this, so it is in some ways a nod to past versions). We are also offering a glossary of the Gaelic terms and phrases we're using to save you a trip to the Gaelic-English dictionary you no doubt have handy for the translations.

And, *tá fáilte romhat!*

Uilleann music playing, folks wearing green
Crowds full of joy, everywhere to be seen
Keep the day holy, stay out of hell
But those so-called Irish potatoes, well...
Certainly not spuds, but something in between

Bainne in your *caife* to start, worthwhile
With breakfast to bring an early smile
Nothing to rave about in this scene
The usual Irish breakfast cuisine
With some *uisce beatha* for Irish style

Raising pints in honor to the dear old sod
Slainte, as Irish eyes smile with a nod
Cead Mile Failte follows in a bit
Along with some words of wisdom and wit
With prayers passed to honor country and God

All the lads and lassies, shamrocks abound
Rattle their *shillelaghs*, heard the world 'round
Inaccurate stereotypes fall aside
Failte, the Eire demonstrate their pride
All good wishes from celebrators resound

When you celebrate in your own way
And use your native tongue or Gaelic to say
Whether you are or aren't Irish
We offer sincerely our Section's wish
For all the best for Saint Pat's Day

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

And the glossary...

Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig! (ban ochth' thee na fay'le paw' drig – Happy Saint Patrick's Day)

Ta fáilte romhat (ta fahl'chuh rom' at – you're welcome)

Uilleann (will' in – Irish bagpipes)

Bainne (bane – milk)

Caife (kaf' ee – coffee)

Uisce beatha (wish' ka bay' ta – whiskey)

Slainte (slawn' cha – cheers)

Cead Mile Failte (kade mee' la falh' chuh – a hundred thousand welcomes)

Shillelagh (shi lay' lee – walking stick)

Failte (fahl' chuh – welcome)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS UPDATE

As those who hold professional licensure in engineering, surveying, and geology know (among others), continued professional development (CPD) credit must be obtained as a requirement for license renewal. Also, as a reminder, PA PE's will be up for renewal in September this year, thus, it may be a good time to assess what you might need credit-wise to be able to attest to this for your license renewal.

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

The recorded meetings and sessions that we had available for later review through Teachable.com are unfortunately no longer accessible as we have discontinued that program. However,...

If you haven't taken full advantage of what our Section offers, you may need to pick up those PDH's in another way. Fortunately ASCE National offers free on-demand webinars and coursework that will get you up to 10 PDH's as a benefit of your membership. Information on this is available in the Membership section of the ASCE National website (www.asce.org). There are other offerings that are available from National at cost to help you pick up what you may need as well.

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

SCIENCE FAIRS – HELP WANTED...

As we have for many years, our Section will be offering Special Awards at the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. The Fairs will be conducted on Wednesday, April 2 at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks. Four Special Awards for individual student projects that have a Civil Engineering theme will be awarded, with two prizes for Grades 6 through 8 and two for Grades 9 through 12.

We have helped the Fairs with our Special Awards as well as our service to provide volunteers to judge projects for these awards. The judging will require you to spend most, if not all, of your day (approximately 8AM to 3PM) at the Fairs, examining and short listing possible projects in the morning and then interviewing the students who assembled them and finalizing the selections in the afternoon. A short orientation session will be provided immediately before the judging begins to get one familiar with the process and procedure. It is always a very interesting and enlightening experience.

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

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

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

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