



ASCE
PHILADELPHIA SECTION

THE

NEWS

Vol 95-3

Our 110th Year

The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE

November 2022



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 2022–23

The Section Meeting program for the upcoming season remains 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. 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 **2023** is:

January 18 (Wednesday) – joint meeting with American Society of Highway Engineers, Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge, topic to be announced

February – to be determined

March 9 – Maggiano’s Center City, to be determined

April – to be determined

May – Spring Social, to be determined

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022

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

SUBJECT: ADVERSITY SHAPING THE WORKPLACE – A PANEL DISCUSSION

SPEAKERS: **Api Appulingam**, Deputy Director of Aviation, Capital Development, City of Philadelphia Department of Commerce, Division of Aviation; **Kevin Brown**, Construction Services Manager, TranSystems; **Herman Lloyd**, Vice President, Philadelphia Area Regional Leader, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.; **Matthew Reese**, Deputy Practice Leader, Urban Engineers, Inc.

MODERATOR: **Kirsten Brown**, Assistant Project Manager, Aviation, Michael Baker Inc.

RESERVATION DEADLINE – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7. The cost per attendee is \$40 for ASCE Members (\$50 for non-members), 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 will be charged \$50 (government agency employees and students will be charged the regular \$20 rate), and will be subject to 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.

Continued on page 2

DECEMBER MULTI-SOCIETY MEETING

Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia and Numerous Technical Societies
Information will be provided in the December edition of *THE NEWS*.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What an amazing start to the new ASCE year! The Phillies are in the NLCS! The Eagles are 6-0 for the third time ever! The Flyers started and are 3-0 start the season! The Sixers are back in action! The Union are in the playoffs! The Philadelphia Section events are back in-person! Oh my!

It's an exciting time to be in Philadelphia. And if you were at Maggiano's Little Italy on October 13, you felt the electricity of our first October Section meeting. **Jeannette Quirus** (McCormick

Taylor) and **Gus Scheerbaum** (City of Philadelphia Department of Streets) did an amazing job on their presentation about the Frankford Avenue, Trenton Avenue and York Street Modern Urban Roundabout – a 2022 MASITE Project of the Year winner. It was amazing to learn how this project brought out the best in the community, including a block party prior to the official opening.

We invite everyone to register for our November Section meeting on **November 10**. We will be having a panel discussion and presentation about **Adversity in the Workplace**. Look for the link in our e-blast or visit our website!

As a look ahead, we will be joining in with the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia (ECP) in December for its Multi Society meeting. As we roll into 2023, we will hold a joint January meeting with ASHE Delaware Valley and participate in Engineers Week Events in February with ECP. We hope to continue the momentum with our March Section Meeting, April Tech Group event and Spring Social.

Our Section's seven active subsidiary groups are also back in full swing. October was an action-packed month for all of them with events online and in-person. Please keep an eye out their upcoming events on our Section events page on our website and in our bi-weekly e-blasts.

Finally, we are getting close to the release of the 2022 ASCE Report Card. Details are being finalized and will be publicizing them through our social media channels, website and e-blasts. Stay tuned for more information!

I hope everyone has a great Halloween and we'll see everyone at our November Section meeting!

Best,
Mohamed A. Elghawy, PE
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section
melghawy@trafficpd.com | 484-363-2472

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

Continued from page 1

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.

We all have different life experiences that we bring to the table, experiences that help us manage our teams and/or factor into our technical decisions. Sometimes these experiences are related to where we grew up or where we went to school, but sometimes it is from the adversity that we experience. Join us as our four panelists will discuss their experiences with adversity and how these experiences affect their professional work.

Attendees will be able to earn one Professional Development Hour (PDH) that will be able to be counted toward ethics requirements at this meeting.

ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2022-23 SEASON

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Daniel Gleason, PennDOT, 2021-23

Danielle Schroeder, Gannett Fleming, 2022-24

PAST PRESIDENTS*

Briana Pampuch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

Jennifer Reigle, Pennoni

Kazi Hassan, CDM Smith

*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.

In addition, these folks will serve in appointed positions:

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Thomas Kulesher, JMT

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Patrick McCourt, PennDOT

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

Contact Us:

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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 DECEMBER 2022 ISSUE
NOVEMBER 11, 2022**

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Kevin Malley, Forum Editor
 Tim Abel, Forum President 2022-23
 Amtrak, timothyshaneabel@gmail.com



Welcome Back Bowling Event

October 5

YMF welcomed back students with bowling at PEP Bowl in South Philly. Students and professionals were able to chat and eat pizza while working on perfecting their bowling scores. The top two people in each lane won trophies with their names on them! This event was a great way to reconnect with students starting the new school year. Thanks to all who came out. Hope to see you at another event very soon!

Adopt a Highway Cleanup Event

October 15

YMF teamed up with the ASHE Delaware Valley Younger Members Committee to help keep the 2-mile stretch of our co-adopted roadway clean! We cleaned up the roadway segment of Bethlehem Pike between Lafayette Ave Connector and Butler Pike in Ambler/Fort Washington. A recap and photos of the event will be provided in the December edition of *THE NEWS*.

Eastern Region Younger Member Council (ERYMC)

June 11

ERYMC was conducted in June in Hartford, CT. YMF was recognized in several areas with awards and citations and we belatedly note these here, with congratulations to those who were cited:

Outstanding Younger Member Group Project: **Scavenger Hunt and Virtual Social Fundraiser, Philadelphia YMF**

Awarded for a Younger Member Group project that had a favorable and measurable impact on the community.

Outstanding Younger Member in Community Activities:

Danielle Schroeder

Awarded to a Younger Member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and participation in community service.

Outstanding ASCE Practitioner Advisor: **Assunta Daprano**

Awarded to a Younger Member who has demonstrated outstanding support for a Student Chapter.

Outstanding Young Civil Engineer in Government Relations:

Ajin Fatima

Awarded to a Younger Member who has demonstrated outstanding service in government relations.

Outstanding Young Civil Engineer in the Public Sector: **Joe Natale**

Awarded to a Younger Member who has demonstrated leadership potential in public sector Civil Engineering.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

WALSH CITED BY MASITE

Past President Jennifer Walsh was awarded the **Donald M. McNeil Award** by the Mid-Atlantic Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (MASITE). This honor was presented at the MASITE Annual Meeting in Dewey Beach, DE, on October 3.

This prestigious award is given to an individual in recognition of his/her years of outstanding service to MASITE and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Donald M. McNeil was a founding member of ITE from Pittsburgh and it is in his memory that the award is presented. The award is not necessarily granted every year and since its inception in 1985, there have been only 13 recipients.

Jenn is the Traffic and Planning Section Manager for Eastern Pennsylvania at HDR in its office in Plymouth Meeting and has been involved in MASITE for over 25 years. She has held numerous positions within the organization, including President of both the local section and the District, and currently serves as the Section Advisor. In this role, she leans on her many years of experience to advise the Executive Board and Committees and act as a liaison to the regional District. Congratulations to Jenn on this honor!



'22 PA Report Card Being Finalized – Release Scheduled!

The four Pennsylvania Sections (Central Pennsylvania, Lehigh Valley, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh) have been working diligently so far this year (and actually since last December) to assess the conditions of the state's infrastructure and provide an updated 2022 PA Report Card.

The Sections have collectively reviewed data on 18 separate categories, including reports, studies, surveys and various other materials from professional societies, non-profit associations, as well as government agencies at the local, state and federal levels. Based on this review, a detailed assessment of the condition of our infrastructure was developed, taking into account its performance, funding, capacity and future needs.

This effort represents the fifth such undertaking performed by the Pennsylvania Sections, following those developed and released in 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018.

The Report Card is "almost there" and will be presented to the public on **Tuesday, November 15**. Please hold the date for a local "unveiling" ceremony that is now in the planning stages. More information will be provided in upcoming e-mail blasts.

Thanks to **Michelle Madzellan** of the Central Pennsylvania Section and **David DiGioia** of the Pittsburgh Section, who have co-chaired the effort this time around, and the numerous volunteers who have assisted in this effort (their names will be provided in the December edition of *THE NEWS*, along with a full report on the unveiling locally).



OCTOBER SECTION MEETING

October 13, 2022

Maggiano's Little Italy, Center City



A rainy and dreary October afternoon and evening greeted roughly 75 attendees at Maggiano's for the opening meeting of the 2022-23 season, and the expected remarks on the good food, especially the fried zucchini, were flowing, as we kicked off the season with an interesting meeting on an urban roundabout. And, maybe just a little surprisingly, everyone remembered how to get to Maggiano's. **President Moe Elghawy**, presiding over his first meeting, opened by thanking his two immediate predecessors, **Jen Reigle** and **Briana Pampuch**, who managed to guide us through what we may call in the future our "virtual period," and noting that he had the opportunity that neither of them were able to experience, i.e. presiding over an in-person meeting. He welcomed **Membership Secretary Kevin Brown** to the podium for a short introduction of **Zachary Paris** of the **Boys Latin Charter School** in West Philadelphia, which is offering Engineering introductory programs to its students, on which he reported its status. Next up was the Drexel University Student Chapter, represented by **President Bridget Courtney** and **Vice President Kris Melag**, who tag-teamed a presentation and update on the Chapter's activities.

Following this, **President-Elect Joe Natale** introduced the evening's featured speakers, **Jeannette Quirus**, Director, Traffic Engineering at

McCormick Taylor, the project design consultant, and **Gustave Scheerbaum**, Director, Strategic Initiatives, City of Philadelphia Department of Streets, who teamed up to provide a background on the selection of the Frankford Avenue/Trenton Avenue/York Street intersection as a candidate for a roundabout and the evaluation and design process to implement the improvements. The team walked the attendees through the process to take a difficult intersection which was traffic signal controlled and evaluate options for making it work more efficiently within a number of physical and operational constraints. With the demographics of the surrounding community being a mix of residents with some young and new to the area and others long-time (or lifetime) neighborhood folks, generally older, there was a bit of skepticism that a roundabout could work, but through public outreach and meetings, along with a scale model of the proposal which folks could guide model vehicles through, the concept became acceptable. It recently (just over a week before the presentation) won an award from the Mid-Atlantic Society of the Institute of Transportation Engineers for its innovation.

A handful of unexpected physical items, such as foundations for a long-gone elevated railroad line, the existing granite block pavement in Trenton Avenue which was hoped to not be disturbed (but was needed to be affected more than anticipated), and some utility lines not identified through the One Call review process, complicated the design to some extent, but the project design was able to be completed, taken through the bid process, and advanced into construction in a relatively short time frame (and during the pandemic shutdowns to boot). Ms. Quirus and Mr. Scheerbaum ably responded to a number of insightful questions following the presentation.

President Elghawy thanked them for their interesting program and offered parting gifts for their time and effort on this.

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.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Our Section Sponsorship program is up and running once again, with 12 firms participating at this early point in the season. 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 for more details.



HOLD THESE DATES

ENGINEERS WEEK EVENTS SCHEDULED

The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, through its Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee, will cite **Engineers Week 2023 (February 16-25)**. 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 16** (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.

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, for more information and updates.

TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES...

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

As a reminder, your 2023 ASCE dues is coming due at the end of the year. You may have seen the e-mail reminders on this and hard-copy invoices are being mailed.



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).

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*

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU FALL INTO A VAT OF CHOCOLATE?

To paraphrase a song from the Smothers Brothers (there he goes with one of those 60's references...), you don't yell “Chocolate,” you yell “Fire,” because no one's going to respond if you yell “Chocolate...” Not sure if the folks who fell into such a vat last June did so, but...

Two people fell into a tank of chocolate while completing maintenance work at the Mars/M&M factory in Lancaster County, and now federal workplace safety officials are investigating. The fall into a partially filled chocolate vat happened at the Mars facility on the 200 block of Brown Street in Elizabethtown, authorities said. Federal labor officials confirmed the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is investigating the incident. OSHA has six months to investigate and submit its findings, according to a US Department of Labor spokesperson.

The workers who fell into the tank are employed by the Manheim-based I.K. Stolfus Services, the Labor spokesperson said. According to its website,

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 or through our Section Secretary, Dennis Wilson (contact information is provided on page 2).

ASCE Brochure – *Katrina Lawrence Budischak*
 ASCE National Conference (2026) – *Chris Menna*
 Audit – *Jesse Gormley*
 Awards – *Bob Wright*
 Budget and Finance – *Cricket Schreppler*
 College Scholarship – *Danielle Schroeder*
 Communications – *Jesse Gormley*
 Continuing Education – *Joe Natale*
 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – *Assunta Daprano*
 Government Relations – *Open*
 History and Heritage – *Joe Natale*
 Humphrey Fund – *John Zarsky*
 Membership – *Kevin Brown*
 Mural – *Angelo Waters*
 Nominating (for Board Positions) – *Moe Elghawy*
 Program – *Joe Natale*
 Registration and Payment – *Mike DeVuono*
 Society Relations – *Cathy Farrell, Bob Wright*
 Spring Social Committee – *Troy Illig*
 Subsidiary Groups – *Jesse Gormley*
 Construction Management – *Bob Wright*
 Delaware Valley Geolnstitute – *Jim Beideman*
 Environmental and Water Resources – *Eric Lindhult*
 Structural Engineering Institute – *Jack Cardinal*
 Transportation & Development Institute – *Bill Thomsen*
 Utility Engineering and Surveying Institute – *Nha Truong*
 Younger Member Forum – *Tim Abel*

I.K. Stolfus Services specializes in “professional industrial cleaning, water tank repair, cleaning & painting, abrasive and sandblasting services.”

Firefighters rushed to the Mars factory and rescued the workers by drilling a hole in the bottom of the tank and pulling them out, according to the Elizabethtown Fire Department. I.K. Stolfus declined comment and directed any questions to a Mars Wrigley spokesperson. Mars did not provide an update on the workers' conditions. Elizabethtown police also directed questions to Mars.

Dispatchers originally told PennLive the workers were not injured. However, both workers were taken to the hospital and were in unknown condition the following day. In a statement emailed to PennLive, Mars Wrigley said, “We can confirm both external contractors have been taken offsite for further evaluation. We're extremely grateful for the quick work of the first responders.”

Thanks to PennLive for this information.

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

NEWS FROM ASCE NATIONAL

2022 ASCE PRESIDENTS AND GOVERNORS FORUM

On September 11 and 12, over 100 Section and Branch Presidents, Region Governors, Society Directors, Presidential Officers, and Institute and Institute Chapter Leaders from around the world participated live, as well as virtually, in the 2022 ASCE Presidents and Governors Forum. This Leader Training Committee sponsored event provided opportunities for attendees to learn about ASCE resources, network with other ASCE leaders, discuss best practices, and develop leadership skills that would benefit their Sections, Branches, Regions, and Institute Chapters.

The program began with a Welcome and Society Overview by **President-Elect Maria Lehman** and **Executive Director Tom Smith**, followed by two largely interactive and dynamic leadership sessions. The first session entitled *"Be the Leader You Are Meant To Be"* was presented by **Jim O'Brien** and provided insight on becoming a better leader at all levels of life. The second session presented by **Dr. Brock Barry** focused on *Non-Verbal Communications* and provided a multitude of scenarios on how we're perceived by our body language and motions. Other agenda items on day 1 included a presentation by **ASCE's General Counsel Tara Hoke** on legal issues impacting our local groups. On the second day of the program the attendees participated in a Q&A session with our incoming President-Elect and Executive Director. Other topics throughout the program included an *"Introduction to your Presidency and How to Utilize your Governors,"* several breakout groups on a variety of Best Practices, and an interactive exercise on Section, Branch, and Institute Chapter Challenges and Presidential Plans.

The overall sentiment was that it was reinvigorating and energizing to meet in person after a 2½ year hiatus. Like the song says, "ain't nothing like the real thing."



SECTION BOARD

2022-23

In this photo at least some of our Officers and Board members are pictured. This was taken at the Summer Board meeting/retreat in July. (For better photos of the individuals please visit our website). In the photo, from left to right, are **Joe Platt**, Region 2 Governor; **Jack Cardinal**, SEI Chair; **Kevin Brown**, Membership Secretary; **Tim Abel**, YMF President, **Katrina Budischak**, Director; **Jen Reigle**, Past President; **Assunta Daprano**, Director; **Moe Elghawy**, President; **Jesse Gormley**, Vice President; **Dennis Wilson**, Secretary; **Archie Filshill**, Director; **Joe Natale**, President Elect. Several others attended virtually and can be seen on the screen. Your Editor was at this meeting but he was wisely cropped out of the photo...



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.



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Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

**If you're riding
ahead of the herd,
take a look back
every now and then
to make sure
it's still there.**

Will Rogers