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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 2022–23

The Section Meeting program for the upcoming season is currently in the very preliminary stages and our meeting program committee is busy lining up speakers and topics for what we hope will be an interesting and informative series of meetings. Our plan and intent is a return to in-person events and more details will be provided on this as we get closer to the meeting dates. The information we have at this point is provided below for your planning purposes. We would suggest that you use this to mark your calendar at this time and hold the dates.

In coming issues of THE NEWS, this information will be “fine-tuned” to provide updates as they are available. We also suggest you visit the Section website for the latest changes in our meeting program. As we have done, each month’s edition of THE NEWS will feature detailed information on that month’s meeting along with as much information as is available for the following month’s meeting, and the “look-ahead” schedule will show details that are available at that time for your advance awareness. E-mail blasts will be sent out on a regular basis to advise and remind of upcoming events and registration deadlines.

We also note the advantage of joint meetings with other societies and will schedule these as we can.

2022

December – to be determined, “multi-society” joint meeting with Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia

2023

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

February – to be determined

March 9

April – to be determined

May – Spring Social, to be determined

OCTOBER DINNER MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 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: FRANKFORD AVENUE, TRENTON AVENUE AND YORK STREET – MODERN URBAN ROUNDABOUT

SPEAKERS: Jeannette Quirus, PE, PTOE, Director, Traffic Engineering, McCormick Taylor; Gustave Scheerbaum, PE, Director, Strategic Initiatives, City of Philadelphia Department of Streets

RESERVATION DEADLINE – MONDAY, OCTOBER 10. 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](http://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.

Our “express” check-in process will be in place for those who reserve and pay via PayPal. Please print your paper ticket when you reserve and bring the ticket with you. This will allow you to enter the meeting room and bypass the registration table.

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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ASCE DAY • NOVEMBER 5

In 1852, twelve esteemed Engineers gathered in New York City to establish what would become the American Society of Civil Engineers. November 5 will mark the Society’s 170th anniversary, so mark your calendars for this ASCE Day. And with this being on a weekend, that keeps things wide open for extended celebrations, etc., as you may need...

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)

Please hold the date and time for this. More information will be provided in the November edition of THE NEWS.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hope everyone had a great summer and is enjoying the cool fall weather. I am not sure where summer went, but I hope everyone was able to spend lots of time enjoying the summer weather with family and friends!

I would like to welcome you all to a new ASCE year! Looking back at the last two years at how far we have come, I wanted to take this moment to thank our Past Presidents, Board Members, and Section Members for all of the new opportunities, innovations, and

advancements that were accomplished in the wake of the pandemic. I'm reminded by one of my favorite quotes:

*"You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been."*

~Maya Angelou

This past July, our Section Board held our in-person summer planning meeting with such enthusiasm, and I for one, can't wait to see our plans put into action! With a look ahead to our upcoming events, our October and November Section Meetings will be back in person this fall. Not only will we be going back to what we love best – networking in-person, catching up with old friends and new, and of course the delicious food – but we will be enhancing those experiences with the advancements we made during the pandemic to optimize the benefits to our members. Our goal is to continue our progress into the new year with our March Section Meeting, April Tech Group event and Spring Social.

I would like to remind everyone of our Section's seven active subsidiary groups that focus on specific areas of Civil Engineering. All our subsidiary groups' upcoming events will be incorporated on our Section events page on our website and in our bi-weekly e-blasts.

- Structural Engineering Institute (SEI)
- Delaware Valley Geo-Institute (DVGI)
- Construction
- Environmental & Water Resources (EWR)
- Transportation & Development Institute (T&DI)
- Utility Engineering & Surveying (UES)
- Younger Member Forum (YMF)

These groups host their own events and provide additional resources to our membership and industry. Please check them out via our website (<http://sections.asce.org/philadelphia/resources>).

As I spoke about at my incoming President note, one of my goals is to continue incorporating more diversity and inclusion to move the Section forward. Keep an eye out when attending one of our Section events for our rolling slideshow that will include a diversity and inclusion related slide. You may have noticed in the October Dinner Meeting registration that pronoun identifiers have been added, to encourage our attendees to use their pronouns on your name tags. We will also recognize our Past Presidents and Students at our dinner meetings with their respective ribbons on their name tags so you can meet our past leaders that made our Section so successful and our future leaders and volunteers.

I look forward to seeing you all at our October 13th Section Meeting "Frankford Ave, Trenton Ave, and York Street - Modern Urban Roundabout (1 PDH)"

Best,  
Mohamed A. Elghawy, PE  
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section  
[melghawy@trafficpd.com](mailto:melghawy@trafficpd.com) | 484-363-2472

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

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Mohamed Elghawy, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

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### PAST PRESIDENTS\*

Briana Pampuch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

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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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### 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 NOVEMBER 2022 ISSUE  
OCTOBER 14, 2022**

## Villanova Stormwater Symposium

The Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership (VUSP) will be conducting its 2022 Stormwater Symposium once again this fall. The biennial Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Symposium will be conducted on Wednesday, October 12 and Thursday, October 13 on the campus of Villanova University.

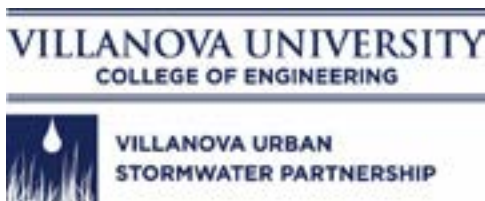
The Symposium has served as the leading convener of experts dedicated to promoting green stormwater infrastructure to combat urban flooding and protect environmental quality. VUSP is a program of the Villanova Center for Resilient Water Systems (VCRWS) whose mission is to "advance the evolving field of sustainable stormwater management and foster the development of public and private partnerships through research."

The theme for the 2022 Stormwater Symposium is "Infrastructure. Resilience. Equity." Over the course of the two-day program, attendees will learn about innovations in green stormwater infrastructure from a diverse group of professionals representing the academic, nonprofit, government and industry sectors. The intent is to foster multidisciplinary collaboration across technical fields as well as greater inclusion in the Engineering workforce, resulting in truly resilient solutions to stormwater.

We have an exciting array of Symposium special sessions throughout the two days. Our first panel is titled Equitable Engineering in Practice and Within Our Community. Also of great interest on Wednesday is a panel discussing the Post Construction Stormwater Management Manual Update, with representatives from PaDEP, Villanova, and NTM. For the first time we have three Villanova research sessions. Nearly 50 abstracts will be featured and four plenary speakers will be presenting over the course of the event. Over 300 attendees are anticipated to participate, representing a diverse cross-sector of stakeholders in the stormwater management community. We have built ample networking opportunities into the agenda—breaks, lunches and the Wine & Cheese Social—to provide time to make professional connections and build community.

For more details and information, please visit

<https://vuevents.villanova.edu/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=704432&language=eng>



## YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Kevin Malley, Forum Editor

Tim Abel, Forum President 2022-23

Amtrak, timothyshaneabel@gmail.com

### Maximizing Your Career Growth Event

September 6

YMF hosted a virtual roundtable event for student and professional members of ASCE for three rounds of career development topics. The event was held on **Gather**, an interactive alternative to Zoom that includes a custom virtual space for communities to meet. Attendees selected three topics to discuss in small groups of 3-4 people. Following each topic discussion, attendees returned to the main group to share a brief summary of their discussions. Each attendee was provided \$20 meal vouchers to purchase a dinner of their choice! THANK YOU to the Committee on Younger Members (CYM) for helping us make this event possible.

### End of Summer/Welcome Back Happy Hour

September 8



YMF members gathered at **Dock Street Brewery South** for the End of Summer Happy Hour. We enjoyed a great selection of hors d'oeuvres and the Brewery's finest refreshments. It was a great opportunity to meet new people and connect with friends in the Civil Engineering industry. **Joe Natale**, Section President-Elect was our wonderful photographer for the day to capture the annual YMF Photo.

### JEDI – PE Exam Panel Question and Answers

September 15

YMF's JEDI committee hosted a Professional Engineer Exam panel. Our panelists were **Egla Qori**, a Structural Engineer from AECOM; **Zachary Hill**, a Geotechnical Engineer from HDR; **Sean Pence**, a Transportation Engineer from TP&D, and **Kevin Malley**, a Water and Sewer Engineer from PWD. They guided the attendees through into the test-taking experience. Some panelists were familiar with the new computer-based format (CBT), and others took the paper format. **Dan Bhaumik** moderated the event using Microsoft Teams with the support of **Sabrina Mamo**.

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## OUR SECTION IN THE NEWS

### DVGI Cited as Best Chapter

The Delaware Valley Geo-Institute (DVGI) was recognized with the **Geo-Institute's 2022 Best Chapter Award** this past spring. The award was established to recognize a Chapter's outstanding commitment to advancing the geoprofession. DVGI is one of the pioneering G-I Chapters, founded in the 2000's, changing from our Section's Geotechnical Technical Group, and has been one of the most active Chapters in the Geo-Institute.

Despite the pandemic, DVGI conducted nine events last season, providing quality presentations on current technical topics and hosting G-I's 2021 Cross-USA Lecturer Liz Smith. It carefully selects its technical topics, giving an opportunity for the members to earn professional development hours. It actively participated in the 2021 ASCE Central Pennsylvania Geotechnical Conference, held in Hershey.

Over this past year DVGI focused on promoting diversity and inclusivity in participation and leadership, supporting and encouraging the equitable opportunity for all people to participate within the Civil Engineering profession. It has more than 400 members supporting the industry and academia in the area. We congratulate DVGI on this honor.





# THE 2022 SPRING SOCIAL – BACK TO SPRING, TWO EVENTS, AND IN-PERSON ONCE AGAIN...!

Following our twice-celebrated Spring Social in 2021, with the first of them actually in the spring (the September event happened in the waning days of summer), our Section decided that having two Socials was something to, well, do twice, so for 2022 (and maybe it had something to do with all the 2's in this year), we scheduled things accordingly. The virtual version of this would come first, held on May 5 and including roughly 60 participants on a nice spring evening (being virtual allowed at least a handful of those in attendance to do so while being outside and enjoying the nice weather), and featured our Section Award recipients, Section Scholarship Winners, Past Presidents, Delaware Valley Science Fair Winners and our newly-minted Life Members. The event started with breakout rooms to allow attendees to network in smaller groups before the actual festivities. "Social Part I" appeared to be well-received and enjoyed by those who participated.

Two weeks later, on May 19, we happily returned to Maggiano's in Center City for the in-person version of the Social (or "Social Part II" using the convention adopted in the last paragraph), after an over-two-year absence. On another warm spring evening, roughly 50 folks showed up to network and enjoy the very-much-missed delicious offerings at Maggiano's and once again honor our Section Award winners, Scholarship winners, and Delaware Valley Science Fairs winners, as well as to welcome in the slate of Officers and Board Members for the 2022-23 season.

Three years ago, in our report on the 2019 Spring Social, it was noted that it was a little later than those in previous years, happening in mid-May as opposed to about a week earlier. In 2020 the "late factor" was measured by months, as the current restrictions on gatherings pushed this from its originally-planned date of May 14 to September (and then putting the "Spring" part of this in question), and then unfortunately to a virtual event. This time around we did a little better time-wise.

In our report on the Socials last year, we noted that now-Past President Jen Reigle might be our first President to not physically preside over any in-person Section dinner meetings. We now have to amend that a little as her successor, Briana Pampuch, shared that "honor" with all of the 2021-22 dinner meetings being virtual (not by choice, as we know...). So, this was quite the norm for her by the time the "virtual" Social rolled around, and she was easily able to preside over the festivities and handle the orders of business of the evening. The usual slide show/Powerpoint was presented to cite the Section Award recipients, and they were invited back to the "live" Social to be cited again and bring their award plaques along to show off. This year's awardees are noted below.

## Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year

### James A. McKelvey III, PE

Jay is the recipient of our highest honor, the Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year award, for 2022. He is the Director of the Geotechnical Design Division at Earth Engineering Inc. at its headquarters in East Norriton. In this capacity, he manages the division's geotechnical tasks and activities including site assessment and field investigations, deep and shallow foundation design for buildings, bridges and other structures, retaining wall design, embankment stability, mechanically stabilized soil structures, and subsurface hydrology. He has significant experience in the mitigation of heavy construction claims and litigation support for heavy construction projects as well as construction support and construction quality assurance projects. He has made technical contributions to the remediation of many Superfund sites and over fifty landfill design projects.

Jay attended Drexel University and received his Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering in 1985, followed by his Masters degree in 1992. He has published over 35 technical papers in journals, conference proceedings and trade magazines. He is a Past Chair of our Section's Delaware Valley Geo-Institute and serves on the ASCE Geo-Institute Local Involvement Committee as well as the technical committees for Earth Structures and Embankments,

Dams and Slopes. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in 13 states and is currently in the process of completing his Doctorate degree. He also finds time to be a guitarist, vocalist and songwriter for the rock band Civil Discord. He lives in Eagleville, Montgomery County.

## Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer of the Year

### J. Kevin Walsh

Kevin is a Staff Engineer at HNTB at its office in Center City and has held this position for the past two years, following six years with a previous firm. He has a lead role in the design and preparation of project plans, specifications and permit applications for transportation projects and assists in the preparation of proposals, scope, budgets and schedules for Engineering services. He specializes in the improvements of roadways, ADA facilities, pedestrian and bicycle trails, complete streets and traffic control. He additionally handles permitting and plan review for several agencies and municipalities. He has been a key part of several local projects including improvements on local roadways in Abington Township and at the Byberry North Business Center in Northeast Philadelphia.

Kevin received his Bachelors degree from Temple University in 2014. He has been very active in our Section's Younger Member Forum and has been part of the Forum's Board for the past six years, serving in several capacities and currently the co-chair of Social Events. His leadership of the Civil Engineering Club program led to his citation as a recipient of our Community Outreach and Service Award in 2017. He is also the Treasurer of the Temple University College of Engineering Alumni Association. He and his wife reside in the Point Breeze neighborhood of South Philadelphia.

## Geotechnical Engineer of the Year

### Jennifer Peirce Brandt

Jen is the President and Co-Founder of Peirce Engineering. In addition to running the firm, she has responsibility for design of geo-structural projects including temporary and permanent earth retaining walls, underpinning, ground anchors, micropiles, soil nail walls, sheet pile cofferdams, static pile load tests and other types of geotechnical and construction services. Frequently she works with construction contractors to prepare plans and details for sheeting, shoring, embankment and excavation support, and subgrade stabilization. She co-founded her firm with her father, John, in 1992, and spent several years with other consultants while assisting with the development of her new company. Among her local notable projects are the PennFirst Patient Pavilion in University City, the Delaware Valley Geo-Institute's Project of the Year in 2019-20, and the New Richardson Park Pump Station, which was cited by the Delaware Contractors Association for its Construction Excellence Award in 2020.

Jen graduated from Drexel University in 1995 with dual Bachelors degrees in Civil Engineering and Architectural Engineering. She is an active member of our Section's Delaware Valley Geo-Institute, as well as the American Society of Highway Engineers and the Deep Foundations Institute. She is active in her community's sports programs as a youth field hockey and lacrosse coach. She and her family live in Chester County.

## Government Service Award

### Harold Windisch

Harold is the Assistant District Executive for Construction at PennDOT's District 6 offices in King of Prussia. In this capacity he directs the construction management and inspection program and activities in the most populous and heavily-traveled of PennDOT's eleven statewide Engineering districts. The District's Construction Unit encompasses a current program of over 130

## 2022 SPRING SOCIAL

*Continued from page 4*

active projects with a total value of nearly 2 billion dollars, which are overseen by roughly 150 Department managers, supervisors and inspectors as well as a strong contingent of consultant forces. Among these projects are the ongoing I-95 Revive program in Northeast Philadelphia and major undertakings on several roadways and bridges throughout our region.

Harold is a legacy at PennDOT, having been preceded by his grandfather and father, each of whom held his current position during their own careers. He obtained his Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering at Drexel University in 1990, attending the University's Evening College after earning degrees in other fields but deciding to pursue an Engineering career. He joined PennDOT in 1985 and held several positions in the District's Planning and Programming, Group, Maintenance Unit, and Construction Unit before his appointment to the Assistant District Executive role three years ago. He is a member of the American Society of Highway Engineers and the Deep Foundations Institute. He lives in Chester County.

## Community Outreach and Service Award

**Christian Antisell**

**Christopher "CJ" Medora**

There were two recipients of our Community Outreach and Service Award.

**Chris Antisell** is a Highway Design Specialist at Traffic Planning and Design in the firm's office in West Chester. He has been with TPD for the past three years and handles geometric highway design, plan preparation and related tasks for PennDOT and Pennsylvania Turnpike assignments, and serves on the Open Roads transition team. He received his Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering from Widener University in 2019 and was very involved in Widener's ASCE Student Chapter during his time there. He brought his willingness to volunteer to the Section's Younger Member Forum, completing his second year as its K-12 Outreach Co-Chair this season and assisting in outreach sessions to convey information on Civil Engineering careers to local

grade and high school students. He additionally serves as Practitioner Advisor for Widener's Student Chapter. He and his two cats reside in Mont Clare, Montgomery County.

**CJ Medora** is with WSP at its office in Center City. He is an Associate Traffic Engineer and has been with the firm since last August, following three years of experience with another firm. He handles traffic analyses using software routines, designs transportation infrastructure, prepares plans for traffic signals, pavement markings, and traffic control, develops cost estimates and specifications, and handles related activities. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Villanova University in 2018 and has received certification as an Envision Sustainability Professional. He has been very active in our Section's Younger Member Forum over the past three years and has served in several capacities, including the current chair of the Student Member Transition Committee. He also is the Practitioner Advisor for Villanova's Student Chapter and is a member of the American Society of Highway Engineers and the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He lives in the Fox Chase neighborhood of Northeast Philadelphia.

We closed the virtual Social with all good intents to return to a "normal" meeting program for the coming (2022-23) season and looking forward to the in-person Social a couple of weeks following, which was also well received and enjoyed by those in attendance.

## Thanks to...

Special thanks are extended to those who helped make the Spring Social a success once again this year. This includes the Spring Social Program Committee (chair **Troy Illig**, **Kevin Brown**, **Moe Elghawy**, **Jesse Gormley**, **Briana Pampuch**, **Jen Reigle** and **Bob Wright**), the various Awards audio narrators who had to read this "live" this time around instead of being pre-recorded (**Moe Elghawy**, **Carol Martsof**, **Joe Natale**, **Briana Pampuch** and **Bob Wright**), and the Awards Committee (chair **Bob Wright**, **Assunta Daprano**, **Mike DeVuono**, **Carol Martsof**, **Allan Moore** and **Joe Natale**). Planning for the 2023 Spring Social will start later this fall and details will be provided as they develop.

# THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS – OVER 30 YEARS...!

At this early point in our season, we are proud to note that 12 firms have agreed to participate in our Section Sponsor program. We extend our special and collective THANKS to each sponsor for their financial commitment and support.

And, as noted in the title, this will start the 32<sup>nd</sup> season of our sponsorship program. When this started in our 1991-92 season, there were nine firms that participated in it (2 of these remain as sponsors today!). Thanks to all of you have participated in this over the years.

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.

We contacted last year's sponsors in late August to determine their interest for this season, so if you were "in" last year but haven't yet renewed, we look forward to having you back.

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.

In case you were wondering, the nine "original" sponsors were the following. You are correct if you might think some of them no longer exist.

**BCM Engineers Inc.**

**Drexel University (J. Richard Weggel, PhD, PE)**

**Lippincott Engineering Associates**

**National Timber Piling Council**

**Pennoni Associates, Inc.**

**Pickering Corts & Summerson, Inc.**

**The RBA Group**

**Reutter Engineering**

**Temple University**

that was difficult to navigate with low signal head visibility to a more pedestrian-friendly intersection with slower speeds, reduced emissions, and less risk of severe crashes. Ms. Quirus and Mr. Scheerbaum will provide an overview of the project conceptual development, evaluation and design process as well as construction highlights.

Attendees will be able to earn one Professional Development Hour (PDH) at this meeting.

## OCTOBER DINNER MEETING

*Continued from page 1*

Please join us as we return to in-person meetings and one of our favorite locations for this at Maggiano's after an over two-year hiatus in dinner meetings.

This roundabout opened to traffic in the Fishtown neighborhood of Philadelphia in October 2021 and is among the first of its kind in the City. The intersection was transformed from a 6-legged signalized intersection

# N-ASCE\*

## OLDEST SUBWAY IN US TURNS 125

On the morning of September 1, 1897, the residents of Boston, Massachusetts, woke up to the dawn of a new era in public transportation. Shortly after 6 AM, a trolley car headed off the street into a newly finished tunnel beneath Tremont Street. More than 100 people were crammed aboard for the first ride through the first subway to be built in the United States.

If it was history in the making, it was brief. The one-mile ride lasted just three minutes. Even so, onlookers cheered wildly when the trolley pulled into Park Street Station. With the promise of more stations to be built, Bostonians looked forward to no longer having to slog through mud and snow on horseback or on foot, or spending hours in buggies and trolleys stalled on the city's traffic-choked streets.

At that point London's residents had been riding in the world's first subway system for 34 years. A short pneumatic subway line was opened in New York City in 1870, but was unsuccessful and closed after three years. Glasgow and Budapest opened underground lines as well prior to Boston.

Construction-related damage from the excavation of the cut-and-cover structure was minimal, but the project was not without setbacks. Workers unexpectedly unearthed hundreds of bone fragments from unmarked graves, prompting the newspaper headline "Hideous Germs Lurk in Underground Air." Then, when a water main broke and flooded nearby offices, a pastor called the subway project the work of the devil.

The biggest accident was a huge gas explosion in March 1897 that rocked the area around Tremont and Boylston streets. Sparks off a passing streetcar had ignited a large pocket of natural gas trapped between the roof of the tunnel and the street above. Streetcars were tossed into the air in flames, the ground shook, and glass rained down from offices and store windows. Ten people were killed, and 60 were seriously injured.

The disaster did nothing to soothe those people nervous about traveling underground, but the tunnel itself was not damaged and work continued. The first leg of the subway opened a few months later, on time and under budget. It wasn't long before other cities had subways - Paris in 1900, Berlin in 1902, and New York City in 1904. (The Market Street subway locally began service in 1907 and is similar to Boston's system in that it includes a typical rapid transit line as well as the subway-surface trolleys.)

More than 100,000 rides were taken on the

Boston subway on its first day. Today the subway is part of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA, also known as the T). About 360,000 subway rides are taken each weekday.

More than 200 cities in 61 countries have subway transit systems. Shanghai's network set a one-day ridership record of 13.2 million in March 2019. The system has nearly 500 miles of track. Its longest line stretches 50 miles to a Disney resort. New York has the most stations, at 472, and in 2019, the last full year before pandemic shutdowns, it averaged nearly 5.5 million weekday riders. Washington, D.C. has the country's fourth-busiest transit system behind Chicago and Boston.

Subway cars heading into Moscow have a recording with a male announcer; those heading away have a woman's voice. Tour guides say the system, which helps blind passengers, is a reminder that "your boss calls you to work, your wife calls you home." (We're not sure how this works when it's the wife going to work and the husband who's staying home.)

Subway stations were used as air-raid shelters in London during both world wars, and in Kyiv, Ukraine, earlier this year.

Thanks to the Washington Post for this information.

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

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

### McAtee Retires

Urban Engineers is proud to recognize the service and contributions of **Joseph McAtee**, who has retired from the firm's Board of Directors. Joe had served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Urban until his retirement from that position in 2015. He will continue to serve the company as a senior advisor.

"Urban will always be thankful for Joe's service and appreciative of his contributions to the firm's legacy," said Kenneth R. Fulmer, PE, Urban's President and CEO. "Both Urban and Joe grew alongside each other over the years, and Joe in many ways has served as a backbone of the firm, keeping it strong and balanced. As a Director, Joe provided top-level insight and support to our firm's leadership, and we look forward to his continued guidance in an advisory role."

Joe first joined Urban in 1967, and became one of the principal owners in 1993, with oversight responsibility for all of the firm's design, construction, and program management activities. In this capacity, he was responsible for the technical quality of the design groups

providing services for virtually all technical areas of civil infrastructure projects, including transit, facilities, highways, bridges, rail freight, aviation, marine, and environmental engineering assignments.

Joe earned his bachelor's in Civil Engineering at Drexel University. He has also served as the Washington State Department of Transportation's Representative on the Dispute Review Board for the I-405 HOV construction. Additionally, he has given numerous presentations and seminars to organizations on the topics of construction management practice, claims avoidance, and construction site safety.

During his career, Joe received several awards, including our Section's Construction Engineer of the Year in 1990 and the Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year in 2001. He attained Life Membership status in ASCE in 2012. We wish him good luck in his retirement and we know he will certainly be keeping busy.

## Confidence is 10% hard work and 90% delusion.

*Tina Fey, American actress, comedian, writer, producer, and playwright*

## THE MULFORD CLASSIC—GOLF OUTING



If you're looking for a fun and interesting day on the golf course, please mark the date of **Monday, October 10** in your calendar and plan to join us at the **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Engineers' Club/Philadelphia Engineering Foundation (PEF) Golf Tournament**, also the **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mulford Classic**. It will be conducted at the **Bala Country Club** in Wynnefield. Various sponsorships, foursomes, and individual play are available.

If you're not a golfer, volunteer opportunities for various event duties are available. This is all for a good cause – PEF funds and administers college student scholarships and prizes in conjunction with the Engineers' Club that are awarded during Engineers Week.

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



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS UPDATE

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

This was "renewal" year for both New Jersey and Delaware, with each due several months ago (April 30 for New Jersey, June 30 for Delaware). During your renewal process, you likely had to check your tally of professional development hours (PDH) that you needed to attest that you had to meet the minimum for renewal. In slightly less than a year from now, Pennsylvania renewals will be due (September 30).

As you may know, 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 (including the ability to view a meeting after the fact, through Teachable, and get said 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.

Additionally, 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](http://www.asce.org)).



## NEWS FROM NATIONAL

The National Convention will be returning to an in-person event this year. Here's what you will experience:

- Engage with state infrastructure coordinators tasked with overseeing the implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).
- Learn from local mayors about the importance of infrastructure to the economy, quality of life, and fighting inflation.
- Participate in sessions on social equity in infrastructure investment and the potential policy decisions that may be adopted.
- Attend breakout sessions focused on specific features of Future World Vision, a next-generation initiative for those who will create the future built environment.
- Enjoy eye-opening technical tours of local innovative Engineering projects.
- Attend career-enhancing educational sessions and earn up to 28 PDHs.

Please visit [convention.asce.org](http://convention.asce.org) for more information and registration.

## SECTION COMMITTEES

Our Section runs very well and it is mainly a result of the dedication and service of our many volunteers, both our Officers and Board Members as well as our various Committees. While many of you know the former group well, you may not be all that aware of the latter. Our Committees address many of our regular and ongoing issues and keep our Section vibrant and in the forefront of service to our membership. A list of our Committees and chairs for this season is provided below. We would like to thank these folks and their helpers for their contributions and diligence in helping our Section do what it does.

Additionally, if you have a particular interest in helping the Section as a Committee volunteer, please reach out to us at [info@asce-philly.org](mailto:info@asce-philly.org) or through our Section Secretary, Dennis Wilson (contact information is provided on page 2).

- ASCE Brochure – *Katrina Lawrence Budischak*
- ASCE National Conference (2026) – *Chris Menna*
- Audit – *Joe Natale*
- Awards – *Bob Wright*
- Budget and Finance – *Cricket Schreppler*
- College Scholarship – *Open*
- 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) – *Briana Pampuch*
- Program – *Moe Elghawy*
- Registration and Payment – *Mike DeVuono*
- Society Relations – *Cathy Farrell*
- Spring Social Committee – *Troy Illig*
- Subsidiary Groups – *Joe Natale*
  - 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*

### YMF

*Continued from page 3*

We would like to thank our panelists and the JEDI committee for this effort! If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact JEDI Chair, Matt Reese, [mfreese@urbanengineers.com](mailto:mfreese@urbanengineers.com).

### Phillies Game/Tailgate

*September 23*

YMF's Phillies game and tailgate was an wonderful night for in-person networking and fun. For the second year after lockdown, attendees gathered safely in lot M for a tailgate, which included catered sandwiches and pizza for all. After reconnecting with colleagues and filling up on some food, we headed into the Park to watch an exciting Phillies win over the Braves!



# 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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**When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat. Instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future.**

*Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom and British Commonwealth*