

ASCE SC Section FY2020-2021 Retroactive Newsletter

FY20-21 PRESIDENT'S PEN

Dear ASCE Section -

Greetings to you and welcome to our newsletter! The**ASCE South Carolina Section** has restarted our newsletter, and I am grateful for the opportunity to relate some of the things our section has accomplished this year. First though, I want to say a tremendous thank you to every one of you, to our branch leaders, and to my fellow section officers for getting to serve with you.

In 2020-2021, we continued to feel the impacts of COVID. The leadership of our branches adjusted, often month-to-month, to find ways to provide value to you and support our profession and the community. They continued to have meetings in various formats while also having other activities like site tours and I appreciate their flexibility and creativity.

Several section-level activities this year I'd like to recognize include completely rebuilding our Section website, starting a <u>LinkedIn</u> page, getting <u>new banners</u> for events, updating our section by-laws, maintaining solid financial footing, partnering in <u>Engineers' Day on the Hill</u>, partnering in the <u>SC Engineers Conference</u> (including multiple members giving presentations), recognizing several members by giving awards at that conference and restarting this newsletter.

One other activity that merits special attention is the 2021 release of our *first* Report Card for South Carolina's Infrastructure. While our state has made progress in improving our infrastructure over the past few years, the report card shows that much is still to be done. It is not enough to have an infrastructure day or infrastructure year. Indeed, we need an infrastructure decade if we are to improve the systems that are critical to the safety and welfare of the public whom we serve as engineers. The Report Card is an invaluable tool for us in promoting the importance of infrastructure and the role Civil Engineers have in protecting our way of life. Our work has not stopped with the release. There have been press conferences, interviews, presentations and meetings with elected officials and these efforts continue. I encourage every one of us to be familiar with the report card and keep the conversation going. I also encourage you to join with me in showing appreciation for our colleagues who made this a success.

As an engineer, it's easy to get fixed on facts and figures but at the end of the day, what made this truly worthwhile to me is working with an incredible group of leaders and serving each of you and the public at large. I look forward to the great things ahead with our Section. Again, thank you so much for allowing me to serve you this year.

Yours truly,

Jonathan Thrasher, P.E.



Above is the photo of outgoing President, **Jonathan Thrasher** (left), and incoming President **Ryan Harvey** (right), holding the gavel and plaque.

FY20-21 EVENTS

October 2020 Officer Installment

Officers sworn in virtually by Kevin Krick (Region IV Governor):

- Past President: Jonathan Ard (Eastern Branch)
- *President*: Jonathan Thrasher (Upstate Branch)
- *President-Elect*: Ryan Harvey (Grand Stand Branch)
- Vice President: Renee Gardner
- Secretary: Cherri DeFigh-Price
- Treasurer: Michael Zavislak
- At-Large Director. Mark Lorah

January 2021 ASCE South Carolina Section LinkedIn Page

Check out the new LinkedIn page for ASCE SC Sectionhere.



March 2021 Engineers Day on the Hill









Mark Lorah presenting at SC Engineering Conference (Myrtle Beach, SC) on <u>The Beautiful Structure: Case Studies for Featuring Architecturally-Exposed</u> <u>Structure in Design</u>



July 2021 New SC Section Banners

SC Section purchased two (2) new banners to be used at various events. One will be stored in Columbia and one in Horry County. If any Branch needs to borrow one, please get in touch with your Section Leaders to make arrangements.



September 2021 ASCE SC Infrastructure Report Card Press Release









October 2021 Officer Installment

Outgoing President Message:

Jonathan Thrasher provided the following thoughts on successes in the 2020-2021 year: accomplishments included updating the Constitution and Bylaws (which now allow virtual meetings), issuance of the Infrastructure Report Card (a multi-year effort), obtaining quality vertical Banners, conducting a hybrid Engineering Conference, upgrading the Web Site, and adding a LinkedIn site.

Incoming President Message:

Ryan Harvey plans on issuing a message to all South Carolina Section membership to gain their input on activities they wish to see the Section accomplish this next year. He plans on developing a set of goals for 2021-22. Some options discussed included starting a State STEM project for ASCE, sponsoring an Engineers without Boarders Project, as well as preparations for the annual Engineering Conference (early June in North Charleston). Planning for the conference, including identifying presenters will start in January.

Congratulations to the following 2021 Award Recipients



Section Leadership Award Dr. Nathan Huynh



SC Young Civil Engineer of the Year Dr. Erfan Goharian



Section Educator of the Year Dr. Charles E. Pierce



President's Award Jonathan Ard, PE



FY20-21 YOUNGER MEMBER CONTENT

November 2021 Midlands Branch Annual Cornhole Tournament



FY21-22 BOARD MEMBERS



Ryan Harvey President Grand Strand Branch Director



Jonathan Thrasher



Renee Gardner President-Elect



Cherri DeFigh-Price Secretary Past President



Michael Zavislak Treasurer



Brad Ross Catawba Branch Director



Jonathan Ard Eastern Branch Director



Mark Lorah At-Large Director



Trevor Wimberly CSRV Branch Director



Lauren Turner Midlands Branch Director



<u>Gwen Sollenberger</u> Upstate Branch Director



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