# The mission of the American Society of Highway Engineers is to provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry that supports education, innovation, and fellowship; promoting a safe and efficient highway system for mobility now and in the future.

Future Luncheon Meetings May 25, 2010

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#### **American Society of Highway Engineers**

www.ashe-trikovalley.com May 2010

# From our President . . . Joe Vogel, P.E.

Our work on the National Conference has intensified as we get closer to the event itself. The Conference Committee is now meeting weekly to get everything organized, and while there is an enormous amount of work still to be completed, I can report to you that everything



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is coming together beautifully, thanks in no small part to the leadership and hard work of Cindy Minter and Caroline Duffy. Many others have contributed time and talent as well. As a Section, we can all be extremely proud of our efforts in making the Conference a huge success.

One way you could help is to assist in the fundraising effort. We have about four weeks to close our fundraising gap, which as of this writing is still very large. If your business, or one that you know of, might be persuaded to donate to the Conference, please call them and ask for a donation. Without additional donations, we will not be able to put on the type of conference we have hoped for. Make that call! Thank you in advance for any help you can provide.

As my second term as your President comes to a close, I look forward to a well deserved break this summer. The opportunity to serve you has been very rewarding to me both personally and professionally. I want to take this opportunity to thank our Board members for their efforts this past year in fulfilling our mission with ASHE. They all worked very hard to make our Section an important and vital contributor to the transportation industry. Especially, I want to thank Bill Lawall for his dedication and service to our Section as Treasurer. Bill is stepping down from the Board after this term, after many years of service to our members, and he will be greatly missed. Finally, I want to thank you, the members, for your support of ASHE during my tenure.

For the coming year, you all will be in capable hands with Jim Jurgensen as your President. The new Board will begin their work next August. We look forward to seeing you on the 25th at the Montgomery Inn Boathouse. Thank you again for your support.

# ASHE PIN (Political Information Network) REPORT May 2010

Now that the reauthorization of the six year Transportation Bill has been extended until December 31, 2010, it looks as if the issue has once again been put on the back burner in favor of other legislation such as the climate bill, and immigration issues.

But more disturbing is that while waiting for the Obama administration to unveil its principles for funding a new multi-year transportation bill, Secretary LaHood has issued a troubling statement that we should all be aware of. Secretary LaHood, at a May 6 hearing of the Senate Transportation and Housing Appropriations Subcommittee, said the \$34.5 billion in bailout transfers from the general fund of the Treasury to the Highway Trust Fund over the last twenty months have changed the special user-financed nature of the Trust Fund that was in place from 1956 to 2008. The following statement tries to justify changing the limitation that the Highway Trust Funds are only to be used for transportation purposes. In response to questioning by the ranking minority member of the subcommittee, Sen. Kit Bond (R-MO), LaHood said: "I know the Highway Trust Fund is set up out of the receipts that come from the gasoline tax. But I will tell you, sir, that when we...when you all extended the program twice now, and extended it through December, the \$35 billion, almost \$40 billion to pay for that came from the general fund...which is taxes paid by all the taxpayers."

This statement was made in support of a Partnership that was established by the Obama Administration last year between the Department of Transportation and the HUD-EPA Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities and includes supporting a \$200 million transfer of highway and bridge construction funding apportioned to states from the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund to be used instead for discretionary planning grants through the Office of Livable Communities. While \$200 million is a small percentage of the almost \$40 billion that was transferred to the general fund, we all need be aware of the precedent that is in the making. Utilizing Highway Trust Funds for non-transportation purposes will open the door for future raiding of the Highway Trust Funds.

Once again the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund is in jeopardy. Instead of creating a finance plan to make the Highway Trust Fund liquid again by utilizing the many different options available such as an increase in the gasoline tax, a national infrastructure bank, and/or public-private partnerships, to name a few, now there is a threat that monies will be reallocated to non-highway purposes regularly. Stay tuned to see if the Highway Trust Fund will once again fall through the cracks before the end of the year!



# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

#### Tuesday, March 23, 2010 Montgomery Inn Boathouse

President Vogel called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance and recognition of four guests. It was announced that the PDH certificates from the January meeting were incorrect and corrected ones were now available. Kevin Savage attended the chartering ceremony for the Circle City (Indianapolis) Section on January 28, 2010.

President Vogel announced that Triko Valley needs to submit an article for the Scanner magazine this summer. If anyone has a suggestion for the article they should contact Joe Vogel or Stan Harris.

Bill Lawall gave the treasurer's report. There is \$2,695.39 in the operating fund plus \$6,000.00 in the scholarship fund. The next general membership meeting will be on May 25, 2010 at the Boathouse and the next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, April 27 at Cincinnati City Hall.

Secretary Dave Emerick was out of town and not able to attend the meeting. President Vogel noted that the minutes from the January 26 meeting were published in the newsletter.

Caroline Duffy was not able to attend and President Vogel gave a report on her behalf. Congress has extended the Highway Trust Fund until March 28. The Senate and House are working on the "Jobs for Main Street" bill which includes extension of the Highway Trust Fund to December 31, 2010. Secretary Ray LaHood announced that the Obama administration will unveil its principles for a new multi-year transportation bill within the next 90 days. The Senate is starting to hold hearings on the reauthorization bill.

Cindy Minter presented the 2010 National Conference Committee report. Registration is now live online. Approximately 31 exhibit spaces have already been spoken for and are going fast. Additional sponsors are needed. Early registration ends May 2. The next conference committee meeting will be held March 24. Bill Lawall noted that you must sign up for the golf outing through the conference, the normal Triko Valley golf outing will not be held this year.

There were no reports from Region 1, Golf or Membership.

President Vogel announced the following slate of officers for the 2010-2011 year:

- President Jim Jurgensen, Jr.
- •1st Vice President Paul Schoelwer
- 2nd Vice President Steve Proffitt
- 3rd Year Director Chris Nyberg
- 2nd Year Director Carol Callan-Ramler
- 2nd Year Director Matt Loeffler
- 1rst Year Director Jennifer Kuntz
- Regional Representative Stan Harris
- Treasurer Kevin Savage
- Secretary Dave Emerick

Paul Pfenning announced the winners of the 2009 Donald C. Schramm awards. They were:

Over \$2 Million Category:

- Eighth Street Viaduct Rehabilitation (City of Cincinnati, Entran, Great Lakes Construction)
- Liberty-Fairfield Road Bridge Liberty-Fairfield Road Bridge (BCEO, LJB, Sunesis Construction)

\$2 Million and Under Category:

 Wilmington Road Bridge Rehabilitation (WCEO, Entran, DDK Construction)

President Vogel introduced the following presenters for the 2010 Capital Improvements Program:

- Joe Bassil Ohio Department of Transportation, District 8
- Carol Callan-Ramler Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, District 6
- Greg Wilkrns Butler County Engineer's Office
- Todd Gadbury and Doug Royer
   Clermont County Engineer's Office
- Ted Hubbard Hamilton County Engineer's Office
- •Neil Tunnison Warren County Engineer's Office
- Joe Vogel City of Cincinnati

Bob Mount won the Split the Pot and donated his portion of the winnings back.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Stan A. Harris, on behalf of David M. Emerick, Secretary



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# **General Membership**

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Matt Loeffler Marcia Maiidzadeh Patrick Manger Benjamin Mann Steve Mary Shawn Mason Dan McAdams Ray McDaniel Joe Mellman Stephen Miles Richard Miller Cindy Minter Dory Montazemi Nathan Moore Michael Morrow Bryan Mount Robert Mount Michael Murray David Newhouse Katie Nolan Ralph Norman, Jr. Christian Nybera David Orr Tim Peters Paul Pfennia\* Jack Pflum Duane Phelps **Daniel Prevost** Dale Proffitt Steven Proffitt Joseph Prus Michael Prus David Quimby Jason Ramler Kevin Reed **Brian Rhodes** Mark Richardson Doug Riddiough Ronald Roberts Jock Roeder Donald Rosemeyer Donald Rosenbaraer

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\* Past Presidents



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1st Year Director	Carol Callan-Ramler	KY Transportation Cabinet	859-341-2700	carol.callan-ramler@ky.gov

#### RSVP!!

Please be sure to RSVP for meetings! Space is limited and an accurate head count helps the Montgomery Inn and the ASHE officers to better plan for meetings.

#### **Split the Pot!**

A Split the Pot contest will be held at future general membership meetings to raise start-up funds for the 2010 conference. 1 ticket for \$1, 3 for \$5, or 7 for \$10.

#### **Business Card Ads!**

\$50/yr for small ads, \$150/yr for large ad and corporate link on TRIKO website. If interested, contact Stan Harris at stan.harris@stantec.com. Send website logos to Matt Loeffler at loefflerm@bceo.org.









#### Paul Schoelwer, P.E.

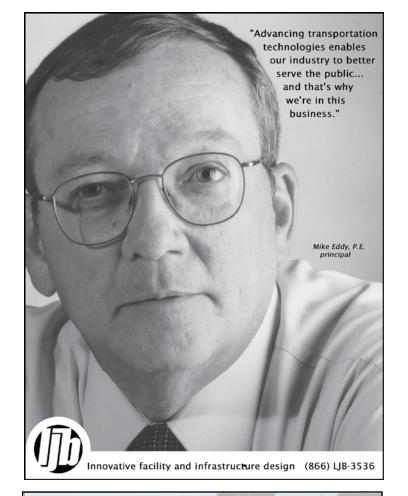
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# ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING

Tuesday, May 25, 2010 11:30 a.m. The Montgomery Inn Boathouse

John Lyons, PE, Strand Associates, Inc. "Green Transportation"

Lunch Cost: \$20.00 RSVP to Bill Lawall at 513-807-2245 by 4:00 May 24, 2010

ASHE P.O. Box 257 Mason, OH 45040