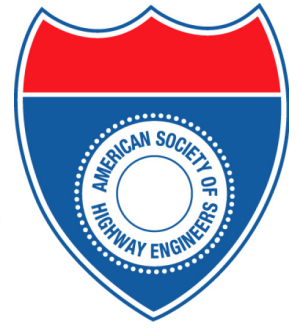


# TRIKO VALLEY NEWS



*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.*

## American Society of Highway Engineers

[www.ashe-trikovalley.com](http://www.ashe-trikovalley.com)

December 2011

Volume 11, Number 7

### From our President . . .

Paul Schoelwer

The holiday season are just beginning. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend this years ASHE Holiday Party at Full Throttle. It is a different pace from our typical meeting. Please RSVP as soon as you can. I believe it will be very enjoyable and a great chance to see your fellow ASHE member in a different light.



A new chapter is finally coming to the Triko Valley. The board has approved the use of Wild Apricot as our means for electronic billing/scheduling. We are still working out some of the kinks but after nearly a year of delays the January 2012 meeting will be the first to use this service. This first go around will still be under the introductory service. I am counting on your feed back, as it will be critical in our decision to continue with Wild Apricot. Please thank Eric Kistner, Dave Emerick, Matt Loeffler and Eric Beck for their work.

The Evite system has proven useful but is very limited for our uses. With Wild Apricot members will be able to pay their membership dues, RSVP and pay for the luncheons in advance. Having been involved with the scheduling over the last couple years I hope that the participation with this program is higher than the Evite system which got only 60 percent of the luncheon attendees to RSVP. That number needs to be closer to 90-95 percent. I would challenge our chapter to achieve 95 percent.

The Schramm awards application will be due January 3rd. This is a great way to show pride in the projects you have worked on over the year. Plus it is a great opportunity to thank the companies who worked with you whether it be municipal, consulting or construction.

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and if I don't see you on December 7th – Happy Holidays.

### Future Meetings

**December 7, 2011**

*(Holiday party)*

**January 24, 2012**

**March 30, 2012**

**May 22, 2012**

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# ASHE PIN (Political Information Network) REPORT - December 2011

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There finally is something for us to be thankful for as the transportation bill is finally showing some movement in Congress. The Senate has approved a two-year reauthorization of federal highway programs at current funding levels. The bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, S 1813, features the following:

1. Reauthorizes the Federal-aid highway program at the Congressional Budget Office's baseline level—equal to current funding levels plus inflation—for two fiscal years.
2. MAP-21 consolidates the number of Federal programs by two-thirds, from about 90 programs down to less than 30, to focus resources on key national goals and reduce duplicative programs.
3. Eliminates earmarks.
4. Expedites project delivery while protecting the environment.
5. Creates a new title called "America Fast Forward," which strengthens the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program (TIFIA) program to leverage federal dollars further than they have been stretched before.
6. Consolidates certain programs into a focused freight program to improve the movement of goods.

The House Transportation Committee is working on a five-year version of the transportation bill. This bill is now exempt from the House rule that limited its expenditure to be equal to the amount of user's fee flowing into the Highway Trust Fund. They can find additional sources of funding to add to the users fee increase the monies in the Highway Trust Fund. A source of additional revenue that is back by House leaders is leveling new fees on new energy production in the US for the benefit of the Highway Trust Fund. Such a source is the natural gas reserves in eastern Ohio that are now being tapped due to new technologies.

While the two house of Congress are moving slowly towards a new transportation bill, numerous differences must be worked out. One of the common threads is not raising the gasoline user's fee. However, the lack of will to use the traditional method by increasing the users fee on gasoline has created numerous other alternatives for raising capital that are now being explored by many states. Pennsylvania is trying to increase its gasoline tax. Ohio is also exploring Private-Public Partnerships in which would include leasing the Ohio Turnpike and implementing tolls on I-75 from Dayton to south of Florence, Kentucky, including the Brent Spence Bridge. Kentucky is exploring tolling two Ohio River Bridge projects in Louisville. In the election earlier this month, every local street initiative in Hamilton County passed. What is clear is that there is a definite need for monies for our crumbling infrastructure. People understand the need for monies for transportation. I suggest the issue of raising the gasoline user's fee be put on the national ballot. Maybe then we would have a quick solution to a problem that Congress has been unwilling to solve for numerous years.

# Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference

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ASHE President Calvin Leggett addresses members during the Central Ohio Chapter meeting during OTEC.



Great Lakes Region President Frank Bronzo (3rd from left) presents Great Lakes Region Project of the Year (under \$3 million) to (from left) Jim Jurgensen, Bill Brayshaw and Eric Beck for the Ridge Road and Highland Avenue Project.



# TRI-KO Valley News

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## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, September 20, 2011  
Montgomery Inn Boathouse**

President Schoelwer called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 11:43 am and recognized guests.

Secretary Emerick indicated that meeting minutes are on table for the May General Membership meeting and were also published in section newsletter.

Chris Nyberg gave the Treasurer's report, announcing a starting balance of \$23,134.88, deposits of \$7,484.53 and expenses of \$10,602.56 resulting in operating capital of \$20,016.85. There are currently 183 members in our section. Annual dues must be paid immediately or you will face reinitiation fees. 120 members have renewed so far.

John Davidson from the scholarship committee indicated that they are just starting the scholarship application process for this year.

Caroline Duffy presented the PIN report, discussing the troubles with passing an extension of the transportation bill as everyone's attention was on the national debt ceiling. The Senate did however pass the bill extension this past week. Senator Mica released a statement applauding the approval of the extension. Issues with major bridges reinforce that a new highway bill is needed. President Obama will be in Cincinnati on Thursday to push for funding to replace bridges such as the Brent Spence. ASHE members are urged to contact your congressman and tell them that you support funding for a new highway bill.

Caroline also covered the concern with LightSquared's temporary waiver to broadcast on 4G frequencies that will interfere with GPS. We are also urged to contact our congressmen regarding this concern.

Ted Hubbard reported on Model law and the structured mentoring proposal. That proposal was voted down; however, BS plus 30 is still on the table and must be voted on by legislators. We will keep our eye on possible votes.

At regional level, the winning highway project presentations will be announced at OTEC. Stan Harris asked for members to update their personal information including e-mail addresses. Attendees were asked to write updates on the sign in sheet. Our section will be submitting another article for the scanner this fall and have two articles already prepared. Doug Brand announced that Brad Ackel will be the golf committee chair next year and that six golfers still need to pay fees for the outing last June.

Membership Chair Carol Callan-Ramler encouraged us to invite cohorts to join our section personally.

Joe Vogel announced upcoming section programs of Schramm project presentations in January and the annual Infrastructure program in March.





# TRIKO Valley News

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

(continued)

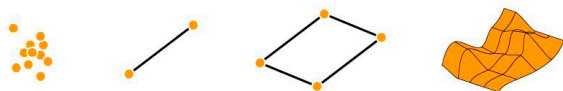
Per Jenifer Kunz, there was nothing to report on the student chapter. We currently have four active student members.

John Davidson announced that the ACI national conference will be held in Cincinnati October 16th through 20th. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

President Jurgensen introduced Mike Battles and Bob Kerley from Woolpert Consultants to speak on the new Horseshoe Casino in downtown Cincinnati.

After the casino presentation, President Schoelwer announced the resignation of Director Cindy Minter and nominated Nathan Moore to replace her as a first year director. Ted Hubbard raised a motion to accept this nomination which was seconded by Matt Loeffler. The motion carried after which President Schoelwer adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:  
David M. Emerick  
Secretary



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Jamal Adhami  
Richard Bailey\*  
Eric Beck  
Gerard Berding  
Bryan Bender  
Steve Bergman  
Gabriel Bitar  
Jim Brannon  
Benjamin Brandstetter  
Tom Brayshaw  
William Brayshaw  
John Brazina  
Wayne Breitenstein  
Jonathon Brunot  
Michael Bryson  
Dennis Brunton  
Stephen Butler  
Carol Callan-Ramler  
Tammy Campbell  
Timothy Casto  
Jim Collins\*  
John Davidson  
Scott Dearnell  
Lori Dearnell  
Scott Dearnell  
Katie Dillenburger  
Mark Dole  
Caroline Duffy\*  
Michael Eddy  
Kristin Eggeman  
Mary Elfers\*  
David Emerick  
Joseph Espelage  
Jeremy Evans

William Fair  
Daniel Furgason  
Dan Ficker  
Vanessa Fritsch  
Bronson Funke  
Timothy Gilday  
Jeff Glowka  
Paul Goodhue  
Paul Gruner  
Richard Guidi  
Corrin Gulick  
Stan Harris  
Steven Hartke  
John Heilman  
Jeffrey Heimann  
Mark Henderson  
Robert Hoffman  
Kelly Hollatz  
Ted Hubbard\*  
Brad Hyre  
Warren Iulig  
Dennis Jennings  
James Jurgensen\*  
Jim Jurgensen Sr.\*  
Ross Kendall  
John Kerr  
Eric Kistner  
Scott Knebel  
Jeffrey Koehn  
Steven Korte  
Wess Kroll  
Jennifer Kunz  
John Lachmann  
Jeffrey Lamb

Maria Lapman  
William Lawall, III  
Michael Lenett  
Aaron Littman  
Hao Liu  
Matt Loeffler  
Patrick Manger  
Benjamin Mann  
Steve Mary  
Shawn Mason  
Dan McAdams  
Stephen Miles  
Douglas Miller  
Richard Miller  
Joseph Moeller  
Nathan Moore  
Bryan Mount  
Michael Murray  
Jeff Newby  
David Newhouse  
Ralph Norman  
Christian Nyberg  
David Orr  
Jack Pflum  
Duane Phelps  
Penny Pike  
Daniel Prevost  
Dale Proffitt  
Steve Proffitt  
Michael Prus  
Joseph Prus  
David Quimby  
Jason Ramler  
Brian Rhodes

Mark Richardson  
Ronald Roberts  
Ali Saleh  
Paul Schoelwer  
Dale Schwieterman  
Steven Shadix  
William Shefcik  
Kar Singh  
Casey Smith  
Stefan Spinosa  
David Spisak  
Phillip Stegman  
Robert Steier  
Craig Stephenson  
Jacob Stremmel  
Michael Sturdevant  
Dwight Stutz  
Cindy Taylor  
Michelle Terrell  
Mike Thompson\*  
David Tomley  
Robert Trenkamp  
Daniel Unger  
Greg Urasek  
Joseph Vogel\*  
Cindy Wallace  
Jeffrey Wallace  
George Webb  
Greg Wilkens\*  
Edward Williams  
Robert Yeager  
Steven Young  
Heinrich Zehetmaier\*

\* Past Presidents

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### 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.**

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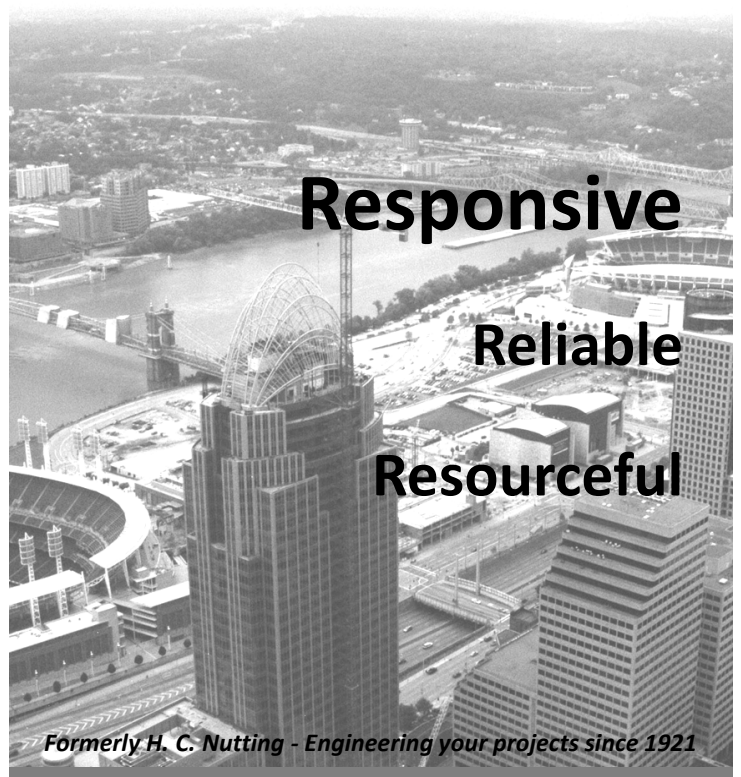
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# **ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING**

**Holiday Party**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2011**

**Racing at Full Throttle Indoor Cart Racing, 5:00 p.m.  
Dinner at Vincenzo's, 6:30 p.m.**

**Racing Cost: \$25.00  
Dinner Buffet will be provided**

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