

TRIKO Valley News

Volume 12 , Issue 5 - November 2012

From Our President...



Steve Proffitt
Thelen Associates, Inc.

The election is over and the Holiday Season is just around the corner. I hope many of you can attend this years ASHE Holiday Party at Star Lanes at Newport on the Levee. This social event will be on Tuesday, December 4th, from 6:00 - 9:00 PM in the two private lounge rooms and will consist of food, drinks and bowling. RSVP as soon as possible and enjoy this exciting evening with your fellow ASHE members.

Last year we switched over to Wild Apricot as our new system for electronic billing and scheduling events. Hopefully the members have seen an easier and more productive system to RSVP for meetings and payment online. Feel free to offer feedback to the Board Members regarding this new system. Board Members Matt Loeffler, Eric Beck, David Emmerick, and Eric Kistner have worked very hard to implement this new program.

The Schramm Awards Application deadline is December 31st. We look forward to receiving several applications this year for the under 3 million and over \$3 million categories. We enjoy receiving and reviewing these project submittals and are proud of the design/construction projects completed by the ASHE members. Please send in your applications soon so that we can recognize and be proud of the many interesting transportation projects that are happening in our local region.

Now that President Obama has been re-elected for a 2nd term, like many I'm anxious to see what his plans are for improving the transportation/infrastructure problems here locally in Ohio and Northern Kentucky from a funding, design and construction standpoint. We need to put more people back to work and to get the economy up and running again in the right direction. One key sector of the economy to help create jobs and to fix our infrastructure is Transportation. What decisions will be made to help pay and get projects like the Brent Spence bridge up and moving forward in 2013 and beyond? Federal gas tax increase? Tolling on federal highways?

I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving and Holiday Season. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Holiday Party on December 4th.

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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.



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ASHE TRIKO VALLEY Upcoming Programs

Tuesday, December 4 - Holiday Party
Tuesday, January 22 - Schramm Awards
Tuesday, March 19 - Public Projects Program
Tuesday, May 21 - Program TBD

Advertising Opportunities

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

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BCEO Wins Award for Roundabout

Trenton Road at Busenbark and Riverside Drive

The Butler County Engineer’s Office has received honors for another of its expanding lineup of roundabouts. County Engineer Greg Wilkens accepted an award this week from the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE) for the Trenton Road at Busenbark / Riverside Drive project completed last year. The ASHE Regional Project-of-the-Year Award recognizes this innovative BCEO project in the category of construction projects costing under \$3 million.

The Trenton Road roundabout in St. Clair Township was designed and built in conjunction with the new Edgewood High School. Situated on the roundabout’s west side, the new school’s primary access drive connects to the roundabout hub, easing traffic into and out of the school in a safe, efficient manner. The project also addressed the skewed and offset approaches of the three intersecting roads at this location. “It was an awkward and sometimes confusing situation for motorists, especially those not familiar with the area,” said Wilkens. “We’ve had great success with modern roundabouts elsewhere in the County and felt that this was the safest, most cost-effective solution for the Trenton Road at Busenbark and Riverside Drive intersection. It has provided a safer situation for student drivers, pedestrians, and the traveling public.”

Kleingers & Associates did the design for the project. Construction crews from contractor W.G. Stang, Inc. LLC of Hamilton completed the project in just over two months, performing the work during the summer when school was not in session. The final cost of the project was \$695,698.

Wilkens notes that this was the fourth roundabout built on the Butler County roadway system. A fifth was completed earlier this year in Liberty Township and two more are slated for 2013. “The modern roundabout has proven to be an excellent option,” he said. “We’re pleased that the ASHE selection committee recognized the uniqueness of this particular project based on our sensitivity to environmental issues, forward thinking design, and the collaborative funding effort with the local school district.”

Roadway and bridge projects are submitted for the award based upon unique characteristics and difficult challenges such as special construction techniques, maintenance of traffic, and funding and right-of-way issues.

Member Project Spotlight



2012
Project of the Year Award
 Category: Three Million and Under
Trenton Road Roundabout

Owner: Butler County Engineer
 Designer: Kleingers & Associates
 Contractor: W.G. Stang, Inc.



ASHE-TRIKO Valley General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 - Montgomery Inn Boathouse

Vice President Matt Loeffler called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 11:45 a.m. and recognized three guests.

Secretary Emerick announced that the May meeting minutes are published on line and copies can also be picked up at the table in the hall.

Treasurer Kistner gave the Treasurer's report. There was a starting balance of \$21,795.52 deposits of \$2,360.15, and expenses of \$138.58 resulting in \$24,017.09 in the operating fund plus \$3,045.08 in the savings account. There are currently 147 members in our section.

Matt announced that there were no applicants for our scholarship last year and encouraged students to submit this year.

Caroline Duffy presented the PIN report noting that the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (Map 21) was passed but will spend all of the money in the Highway Trust fund, resulting in a zero balance in 27 months. Neither presidential candidate has a strong transportation agenda. Many in Washington are saying that the answer to the declining revenue stream into the Highway Trust Fund is the Vehicles Users Tax method for collecting fees. Caroline urged us to contact our Congressional Representatives and demand that they address funding for highways.

Caroline Duffy presented the National report noting that the National board has developed a strategic plan, is developing alliances with other professional organizations and have appointed Bill Brayshaw as the ASHE representative to the American Traffic Safety Services Association. She congratulated Bill on his new appointment. The National Board is also looking for individuals to help set up new sections to cover all of the states in the Great Lakes Region. She congratulated Bill Lawall for volunteering for this committee and asked other interested individuals to see her after the meeting. Stan announced that the Schramm project award winners have been submitted for the regional award. Also, be looking for the announcement for the ASHE luncheon at OTEC.

Brad Ackel indicated that we will be determining the date for this year's golf outing soon and plan to hold it at Walden Pond again.

Matt noted that we will be planning membership drives and are looking to increase our ranks by 30 members.

Stan Harris announced that the newsletter will now be posted on the website and will not be mailed out going forward. Vice President Loeffler reminded us that companies can sponsor adds in the newsletter for \$50 or \$150. This can be paid for on line at the Wild Apricot site.

Our next meeting will be the section Holiday meeting on December 4th. We are looking for

suggestions for a program. The next board meeting will be on October 16th. There was no report on the student chapter.

Under new business, Matt noted that we have been having trouble with our Google account over the past few weeks, as they have cancelled our non-profit status. Matt apologized for the inconvenience and said that the board will consider other options for merchant accounts. Matt urged us to renew early and indicated that the section will work with people to avoid losing members.

Vice President Loeffler announced Andy Barber, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Deputy Project Manager to present on the Louisville-Southern Indiana-Ohio River Bridges Project.

Matt asked attendees to e-mail Eric Kistner for a receipt for today's meal. Matt also thanked Paul Schoelwer for his excellent job as president last year.

Paul Schoelwer raised a motion to adjourn which was seconded by David Emerick. Matt adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:
David Emerick
Triko Valley Section Secretary



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Steve Bergman	Jeff Glowka	Patrick Manger	Kar Singh
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Benjamin Brandstetter	Richard Guidi	Shawn Mason	David Spisak
Tom Brayshaw	Corrin Gulick	Dan McAdams	Phillip Stegman
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Wayne Breitenstein	John Heilman	Richard Miller	Jacob Stremmel
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Michael Bryson	Mark Henderson	Nathan Moore	Dwight Stutz
Dennis Brunton	Robert Hoffman	Bryan Mount	Cindy Taylor
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ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING
HOLIDAY PARTY
Tuesday, December 4, 2012

Please join us for a social event including bowling and food at Star Lanes at Newport on the Levee from 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Cost per person: \$30.00

Includes appetizers, pizza, soft drinks, and unlimited bowling on 4 private bowling lanes

Cash bar also available for alcoholic beverages

RSVP by phone at 513-383-7033 or visit website (www.ashe-trikovalley.com) and click on Meeting Link to register and pay online



