



# TRIKO Valley News

Volume 16, Issue 4 - March 2016

## From Our President...

The passing of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (the FAST Act) will not appreciably heighten Ohio's ability to make marked improvement in the condition of our transportation network. If demonstrable improvements in our transportation system are to continue, Ohio is going to have to find a way to do it. It is time to put forth a serious effort to increase revenue for our roads and bridges. Please continue to voice your opinion to our elected officials who represent us.

Last month's general membership meeting for the Donald C. Schramm Transportation Improvement Awards was well attended. Members got to hear some good presentations on projects that were completed in the last year in our region. It is always exciting to see what can be accomplished by both the design firms and construction companies that help make our local infrastructure what it is. Thank you to all of you who took the time to prepare an application.

Please remember to let any co-op or college students you know that the application date for the ASHE Scholarship is Friday May 13 by 4:00 PM. The application can be found on the website, <http://www.trikovalley.ashe.pro/Scholarships.htm>. This is a great opportunity for students working on a degree in a transportation related field. It should be noted that the requirements were changed this year to allow students to qualify who are in their final two years of school as opposed to final year.

Please join us at our general membership meeting on Tuesday March 15 at the Original Montgomery Inn in Montgomery for our annual Capital Improvement Program. After the general membership meeting, there will be a panel discussion with our local public officials. Take this time to gather a question for your local representative. Representatives from the various County Engineer's Offices, ODOT, City of Cincinnati, KYTC, GCWW and MSD will be on hand. Handouts will be provided summarizing the list of design and construction projects for the year. Also, the winners of the Schramm Awards will be presented.

Please mark your calendars for the ASHE/Cincinnati Red's Outing coming up on May 19th. I look forward to seeing all of you at the General Membership meeting!

Eric Beck

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ASHE - TRIKO Valley Section  
P.O. Box 257  
Mason, OH 45040  
[www.trikovalley.ashe.pro](http://www.trikovalley.ashe.pro)

*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.*

# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, January 26, 2016 - Montgomery Inn**

President Beck called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:48 AM and recognized four guests.

Secretary Emerick noted that the minutes of the September meeting were published in the section newsletter and no notes were taken for the holiday meeting held at the Yard House. Triko Valley is in the process of posting our documents on the ASHE Cloud. A motion was raised by John Davidson to accept the minutes which was seconded by Steve Mary and was accepted.

Eric Kistner presented the Treasurer's report, noting an operating capital of \$23,428.45. Expenses totaled \$7,190.15 and income totaled \$6,260.00. There are currently 177 members including 3 student members.

Caroline Duffy presented the PIN report, indicating that the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST) was passed after 33 extensions, providing \$305 billion in funding, increasing by 11% over the next five years. The source of this long term funding is one-time gains, such as cutting dividend payments from the Federal Reserve to banks with more than \$10 billion in assets, reallocating unspent earmark monies and continued infusions of \$70 billion from the general revenue fund. While the 93% apportionments of the Highway Trust Fund back to the states and the basic program structure remain the same, some features have changed including a reduction in funding for the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA), streamlined project delivery through an improved review and permitting process and proportionate funding increases for both the highway and transit portions of multimodal programs. Caroline encouraged us to contact Congressional leadership to request that they pass the appropriations of the FAST Act funding in a timely manner.

The Regional Board conference call scheduled last week was cancelled. Stan Harris attended the National Board meeting on January 16th. The National Board is working hard on many fronts including starting new sections and strengthening existing sections, developing partnerships with other organizations that support the transportation industry, providing resources to support student chapters, etc. The Board does all of this with almost 100% volunteer labor. President Beck asked members to log into the membership database on the National web site of ashe.pro and update personal information.

Eric Beck noted that the golf outing will be at the Vineyard again this year and asked members to see David Orr if you would like to be a part of the committee.

Brian Rhodes announced that membership applications are available at the table outside.

Aaron Muck noted that he continues to build the student section and is using the successful Delaware student section as a model. He announced that we are looking for volunteers to be involved in the Ohio Valley Student Conference. This is a student competition including a bridge competition and concrete canoe races which is held in Lawrenceburg, Indiana.

Steve Mary announced that ASHE will conduct a technical tour of the new ark in Williamstown, Kentucky on February 2nd. This is the largest timber structure in the world. We will meet at 9:30 am on site and all participants must bring their own PPE as this is an active construction site.

Vanessa Nghiem noted that the holiday meeting held in conjunction with the WTS group was very successful, with a large turnout. We will probably not do a March Madness happy hour event this year, so our next event will be the Reds game on May 19th. Please let Vanessa know if you have venue ideas.

President Beck announced the Schramm Project presentations as follows:

**Under five million dollar category:**

Little Miami Bike Trail-Phase 1, Hamilton County Park District, Randy Westendorf, JRJ

North Third Street Project, Rich Engle, City of Hamilton,

Little Miami Bike Trail-Phase 2, Hamilton County Park District, Randy Westendorf, JRJ

**Over five million dollar category:**

Rybolt Road Improvement Project, Eric Beck, Hamilton County

East High Street Gateway Project, Rich Engle, City of Hamilton

I-275 and SR32 Interchange Modification, Randy Westendorf and Steve Shadix, JRJ

Vanessa Nghiem raised a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Steve Mary and passed. President Beck adjourned the meeting at 1:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:  
David Emerick  
TRIKO Valley Section Secretary

# ASHE PIN Report - March 2016

The ASHE National Legislative Committee has revised the Federal Program Position statement. This statement aims to “support and promote critical transportation policies and funding issues through legislative networks and by educating the general public on the value of these policies and issues.” The ASHE Federal Program Position contains the following seven goals:

1. A federal presence in transportation to ensure safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout the country.
2. All revenues generated from transportation user fees should be reserved for use for transportation purposes.
3. All revenue sources to fund the Highway Trust Fund need to be indexed in inflation to maintain more buying power over time.
4. Actions should be taken to broaden the revenue base for transportation funding to allow for a continuing, sustainable, and predictable Federal-aid program.
5. Congress needs to ensure dependable funding to the transportation industry to entirely fund the FAST Act and provide long term funding beyond.
6. Federal environmental, air quality, and planning regulations should be streamlined and made concurrent/consistent to the maximum extent possible.
7. It is believed that the states and their local government partners, through the federally mandated cooperative planning processes, are in the best position to assign project priorities and make decisions on how to allocate scarce revenues to various project categories within each state.

This Federal Program Position statement is now before the ASHE Board of Directors for comment and a vote. If you have any comments, please email the comments to Caroline Duffy at [CDuffy@jmt.com](mailto:CDuffy@jmt.com) or contact Stan Harris at [Stan.Harris@Stantec.com](mailto:Stan.Harris@Stantec.com) by April 1st.

An update the FAST Act: The Federal Highway Administration issued formal implementing guidance February 29th that allows state departments of transportation to begin drawing on \$1.15 billion for this year that was apportioned to them for freight-related projects under the new FAST Act. That funding stream is the first infusion of money for the new National Highway Freight Program. The five-year highway authorization law also provides \$1.1 billion for this program in fiscal 2017 that begins October 1st; then it will grow in the final three years of the FAST Act to \$1.2 billion, \$1.35 billion, and \$1.5 billion. Another benefit to state DOTs is that the money is apportioned to them under the same formula as their regular highway program allocations from the Highway Trust Fund. Eligible projects shall contribute to the efficient movement of freight and be identified in a freight investment plan. Some examples of how state DOTs can spend the funds are for road projects that separate passenger vehicles from commercial trucks, or for the flyover bridges that eliminate rail crossings by lifting road traffic over train tracks. Others could be truck-only highway lanes, truck parking facilities, electronic screening, and border security technologies. The project list includes more traditional road and bridge capacity projects as well, if they address highway freight bottlenecks and improve truck movement. States can also use up to 10 percent of the funds to improve cargo flow in and out of freight intermodal, marine port, or freight rail facilities.

In Ohio, the Transportation Task Force required by the ODOT budget is having hearings. This committee is chaired by Representative Cheryl Grossman (R- Grove City). At the first hearing, Delaware City Manager Tom Homan spoke in favor of the permissive license fee increase. The County Engineers Association of Ohio is trying to get a bill drafted for the increase. This bill has the support of both the rural and urban counties that need an increase in funding for their failing infrastructure.

The Kentucky General Session is currently in session. On February 9, 2016, the Kentucky Senate passed a bill clarifying how motorists interact with bicyclists by a 33-4 vote. Key provisions in the legislation, known as Senate Bill 80, would require bicycles to keep to the right and would require motorists to stay at least three feet away from bicycles when passing. Many signers of the bill recognize that there is an increase in bicycling for health reasons, as well as an alternative method of transportation to and from work and shopping, and for tourism. SB 80 now goes to the Kentucky House of Representatives for further consideration.



# **ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING**

## **General Membership Meeting - Capital Improvement Program**

**Location: Original Montgomery Inn (Montgomery, OH)**

**Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 11:30 a.m.**

**After the general membership meeting, there will be a panel discussion with our local public officials. Take this time to gather a question for your local representative. Handouts will be provided summarizing the list of design and construction projects for the year. Also, the winners of the Schramm Awards will be presented.**

**Please register even if you plan to pay at the door. Thank you.**

**Cost: \$25 online or at the door**

**RSVP by phone to Eric Kistner at 513-842-8213  
or RSVP online at [www.trikovalley.ashe.pro](http://www.trikovalley.ashe.pro)  
and click on Meeting Link to register and pay online**

## **2014 - 2015 Board of Directors**

Title	Member	Company	Phone	Email
President	Eric Beck	Hamilton County Engineer's Office	513-946-8432	<a href="mailto:eric.beck@hamilton-co.org">eric.beck@hamilton-co.org</a>
1st Vice President	Nathan Moore	The Kleingers Group	513-779-7851	<a href="mailto:nathan.moore@kleingers.com">nathan.moore@kleingers.com</a>
2nd Vice President	Vanessa Nghiem	AECOM	513-419-3451	<a href="mailto:vanessa.Nghiem@aecom.com">vanessa.Nghiem@aecom.com</a>
Treasurer	Eric Kistner	Stantec	513-842-8200	<a href="mailto:eric.kistner@stantec.com">eric.kistner@stantec.com</a>
Secretary	David Emerick	Duke Energy	513-287-1001	<a href="mailto:david.emerick@duke-energy.com">david.emerick@duke-energy.com</a>
Regional Rep.	Stan Harris	Stantec	513-842-8200	<a href="mailto:stan.harris@stantec.com">stan.harris@stantec.com</a>
3rd Year Director	Steve Mary	Stantec	513-842-8200	<a href="mailto:steve.mary@stantec.com">steve.mary@stantec.com</a>
2nd Year Director	Tom Nicholson	PRETEK Group	937-641-8267	<a href="mailto:tnicholson@pretekgroup.com">tnicholson@pretekgroup.com</a>
2nd Year Director	Aaron Muck	Terracon	513-612-9051	<a href="mailto:ajmuck@terracon.com">ajmuck@terracon.com</a>
1st Year Director	Brian Rhodes	JMT	513-699-8579	<a href="mailto:brhodes@jmt.com">brhodes@jmt.com</a>
Past President	Dennis Brunton	Barrett Paving Materials, Inc.	513-271-6200	<a href="mailto:dbrunton@barrett paving.com">dbrunton@barrett paving.com</a>
Past President	Matt Loeffler	Butler County Engineer's Office	513-785-4109	<a href="mailto:loefflerm@bceo.org">loefflerm@bceo.org</a>

# ASHE Triko Valley 2016 Scholarship

The ASHE-TRIKO VALLEY section will be making scholarship awards to college enrolled students. It is anticipated that an award totaling Two Thousand Five hundred dollars will be awarded annually. The size of this amount requires that a formal procedure be in place and rigorously adhered to. It is recommended that the procedure be developed and amended as necessary by the Scholarship Committee.

There are essentially five components of the scholarship process to insure a successful scholarship program. They are as follows:

## **Advertisement**

- In order to ensure maximum participation it is necessary to disseminate facts relative to the existence and details of the scholarship program.
- We will announce the scholarship and have the application packet be posted on the ASHE website.

## **Eligibility and Application**

The following eligibility criteria is as follows:

- College student who is expecting to graduate from a transportation or construction related program within the next two school years.
- Students are attending the following schools: University of Dayton, University of Cincinnati, Ohio College of Applied Science, Cincinnati State and Technical College, and Northern Kentucky University or students are full time residents within the ASHE TRIKO Valley geographic areas of southwest Ohio, northern Kentucky or southeast Indiana.
- It is recommended that applications be developed that adequately evaluate the applicant's suitability for the award. It would be worthwhile to research other award program applications to obtain ideas. It is recommended that the Scholarship Committee develops the application form and modifies it, as necessary, over time.
- Applications will be made available during the 2015-2016 school year to allow the applicant time to prepare the application.
- Applications should be received by a date that will allow for review period of one month, with award decision and award notification no later than June 30, 2016. If decision is made prior to Golf Outing, presentation to winner(s) will be at annual Golf Outing in June.

## **Review**

- The scholarship committee should be expanded to include at least 3, but no greater than 5 committee members.
- The committee will review applications and discuss individual analysis collectively.
- The committee will determine the winner(s) and the TRIKO Valley BOD will award scholarships.

## **Award**

- The award would be one (1) \$1500.00 Scholarship and one (1) \$1000 Scholarship.

## **Distribution**

- The award distribution would be made directly by check to awardees.

# ASHE Triko Valley 2016 Scholarship

Applications are due by Friday, May 13th, 2016 by 4 pm.

Please submit one copy of the application to the following address:

ASHE Scholarship Committee

C/O Nathan Moore

6305 Centre Park Drive

West Chester, OH 45069

Or one copy, via email to [Nathan.moore@kleingers.com](mailto:Nathan.moore@kleingers.com)

As in previous years, we are planning on awarding a \$1,500 scholarship and a \$1,000 scholarship, which are both funded by our annual golf event.

There is a change in eligibility this year. In previous years, only students entering their last year of school were eligible. Starting this year, students entering either of their last TWO years of a construction or transportation related industry program are eligible.

More information and the application can be found at <http://trikovalley.ashe.pro/Scholarships.htm>



# Ark Encounter

Noah's Ark is being constructed to biblical proportions in Williamstown Kentucky. The Ark will be the largest wooden structure in the world at 540 feet long and four stories high. Massive timber framing and many large glulams are being used in this project.

On February 2nd, six ASHE members toured the site and all were impressed with the overall size of the Ark and the thousands of different connections



needed for the many different sizes of lumber incorporated into the framing.

Tours open to the public will start on the first level and proceed up long wooden ramps to the next level. As you walk the ramps, you will see many displays containing animals as well, as Noah and his family stored provisions. Some live animals will be in wooden cages while the public visits the ark. This wooden structure meets

all modern building codes, as they anticipate 10,000 people being in the ark when it opens to the public on July 7, 2016. Additional phases will include a restaurant on the fourth level and other attractions, such as the Tower of Babel and zip-lines, which will be added to the project over time.





## Committee Chair Person Contact Information

The ASHE TRIKO Valley Board of Directors has several committees to help promote our organization in a variety of ways. Listed below, you can find the contact information of the chair person for each committee. If you would like to share an idea or would like to volunteer to serve on a committee, please contact the appropriate chair person. The Board thanks you for your continued support and dedication to the transportation industry.

Committee	Chair Person	Contact Information
Schramm Award	Eric Beck	Eric.Beck@hamilton-co.org
Scholarship	Nathan Moore	Nathan.moore@kleingers.com
Program	Steve Mary	Steve.Mary@dot.state.oh.us
Social	Vanessa Nghiem	Vanessa.Nghiem@urs.com
Membership	Steve Proffitt	sproffitt@thelenassoc.com
Student Chapter	Aaron Muck	ajmuck@terracon.com
Golf Outing	Brad Ackel	Brad.ackel@kzf.com
Newsletter	Stan Harris	stan.harris@stantec.com
Website	Matt Loeffler	loefflerm@bceo.org
Legislative Review (PIN)	Caroline Duffy	cduffy@Barreng.com
Online Payments/PayPal	Eric Kistner	eric.kistner@stantec.com



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# New ASHE Sections

Greetings ASHE members,

The beginning of each year has traditionally been a time many of us devote to getting smaller based on New Year's Resolutions. We at the ASHE National level are interested in getting bigger! We have focused attention on more remote areas such as Portland, Oregon and Denver, Colorado amongst others. Our newest initiative includes seeing if there are opportunities closer to "home". "Home" meaning seeking potential new section champions which may be travelling to areas with current sections, or have a branch office in an untapped region of the country which may have an person interested in sharing the ASHE mission with others and getting a section started.

Anyone interested in discussing opportunities to start a new section are encouraged to contact either Tim Matthews or Perry Schweiss, Co-Chairs of the ASHE New Sections Committee (contact information provided below), or any one of the ASHE National Board members (contact information provided on the website - ASHE.pro). There are many resources available to assist in this endeavor including Powerpoint presentations, detailed guidance and procedures, etc.; all of which can be found on the website. The most important resource available however is also ASHE's strongest attribute...it's members!

We are 6,000+ strong with 41 active sections and, with your spark, we will continue to grow in membership and, as this initiative supports, geographically! We look forward to hearing from those with the pioneering spirit and enthusiasm to spread the ASHE mission!!

With sincere gusto!

Tim W. Matthews, PE  
(Southeast Region)/Atlanta Section)  
TIA Regional Coordinator|Office of TIA  
Georgia Department of Transportation

Perry Schweiss, PE  
(Northeast Region)/(Southwest Penn Section)  
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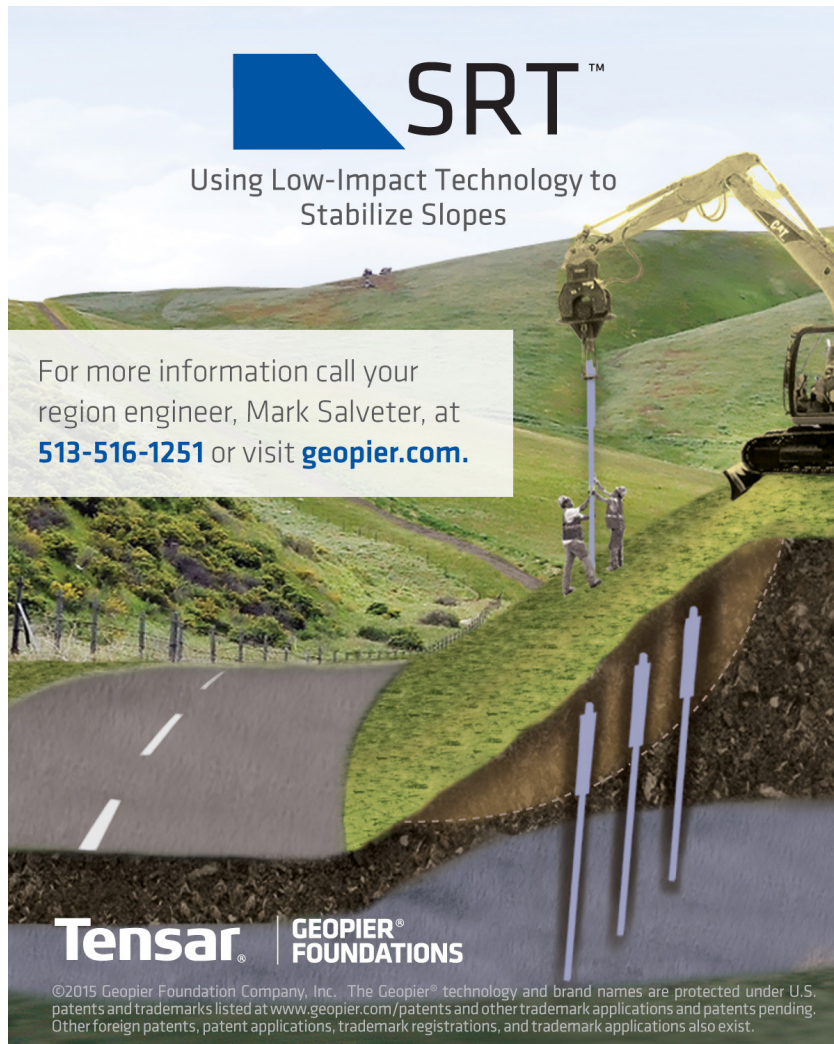
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## Advertising Opportunities!

\$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](mailto:stan.harris@stantec.com).

Send website logos to Matt Loeffler at [loefflerm@bceo.org](mailto:loefflerm@bceo.org).





*Why join?*

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(see inside for more details)

\*varies by Section

[www.ashe.pro](http://www.ashe.pro)



A graphic of a highway sign. At the top is a small green rectangular sign with the white text '1A'. Below it is a larger green rectangular sign with a white border. On the left side of this sign is the ASHE logo, which is a shield divided into red, white, and blue sections with the text 'AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HIGHWAY ENGINEERS' around a central emblem. To the right of the logo, the word 'ASHE' is written in large, bold, white letters. Below the green sign is an orange rectangular sign with the black text 'ENTER' on the left, a black upward-pointing arrow in the center, and the black text 'HERE' on the right. The background of the entire graphic is a light blue sky with white clouds. To the right of the highway sign, the word 'Values' is written in a large, blue, cursive font. Below it, the words 'Diversity', 'Innovation', 'Integrity', 'Fellowship', and 'Quality' are stacked vertically in a blue, sans-serif font.

*Values*  
Diversity  
Innovation  
Integrity  
Fellowship  
Quality

## Why Join ASHE?

- To help promote the highway industry on a Local, Regional, and National level
- To become a member of a group that provides extraordinary value, with National dues of only \$20/year and Section dues ranging from just \$5 to \$50/year
- To expand your knowledge of all things related to highways
- To participate in a highly diverse community, ranging from government employees and contractors to consultants, suppliers, and utility owners
- To stay up to date on technical, political, and project issues with the quarterly *scanner* newsletter, weekly emails, educational events and more!
- To be part of an organization that recognizes the future of the highway industry, fostering Student Chapters and offering educational scholarships (*over \$1.4 million in scholarships awarded!*)
- To enjoy networking opportunities with clients and partners, discussing projects, exchanging insights, and fostering positive working relationships
- To enjoy fellowship with people throughout the highway industry

**Become a part of the highway industry's  
premier networking organization.**

**It's easy to join, just complete the brief  
membership form below and give it to a local  
ASHE representative or apply online at  
<http://www.ashe.pro/newmember.html>**

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: (Mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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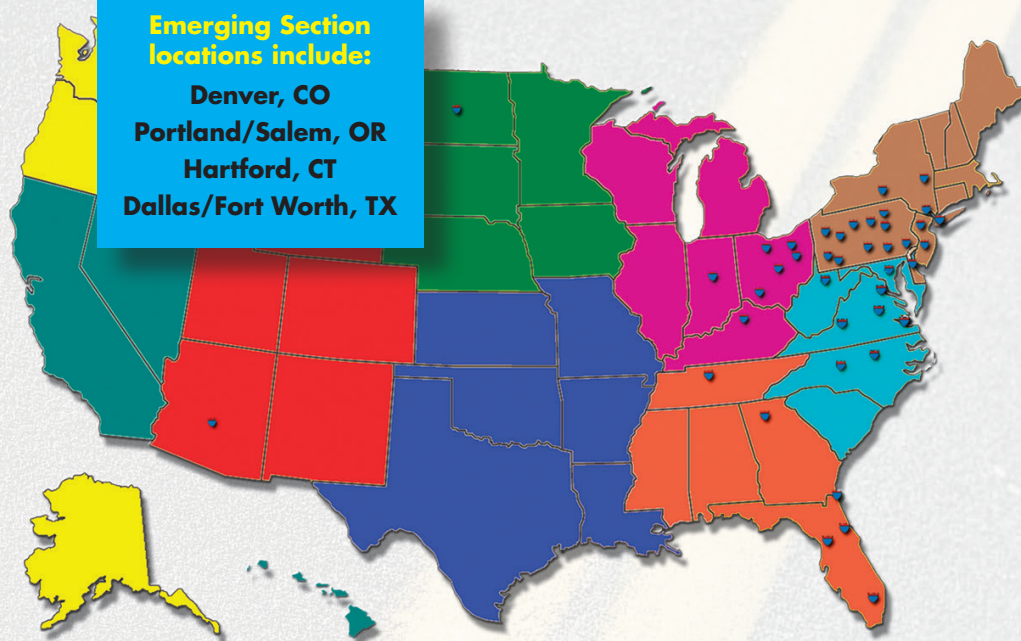
\_\_ASHE friend \_\_presentation \_\_other: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ **Please contact me about starting an  
ASHE Section in my Region.**





## ASHE National Membership by Regions/Sections



**Want to join and don't see a Section by you? Become an At-Large Member or visit our website to see how to start a new Section. [www.ashe.pro](http://www.ashe.pro)**

### Great Lakes Region

#### Illinois

#### Indiana

Circle City Section  
(Indianapolis area)

#### Kentucky

Derby City Section  
(Louisville area)

#### Ohio

Central Ohio Section  
(Columbus area)  
Cuyahoga Valley Section  
(Akron area)  
Lake Erie Section  
(Cleveland area)  
Northwest Ohio Section  
(Toledo area)  
Triko Valley Section  
(Cincinnati, North  
Kentucky, Southeast  
Indiana areas)

#### Michigan

#### Wisconsin

### Mid-Atlantic Region

#### Maryland

Chesapeake Section  
(Baltimore area)

#### North Carolina

Carolina Piedmont  
Section  
(Charlotte area)  
Carolina Triangle Section  
(Raleigh area)

### South Carolina

#### Virginia

Blue Ridge Section  
(Roanoke area)  
Greater Hampton Roads  
Section (Southeastern  
Virginia area)  
Old Dominion Section  
(Richmond area)  
Potomac Section  
(Northern Virginia,  
Washington, DC areas)

#### West Virginia

North Central West  
Virginia Section

### North Central Region

#### Iowa

#### Minnesota

#### Nebraska

#### North Dakota

Central Dacotah Section  
(Bismarck area)

#### South Dakota

### Northeast Region

#### Connecticut

#### Delaware

First State Section  
(Northern area)

#### Maine

#### Massachusetts

#### New Hampshire

### New Jersey

North Central New Jersey  
Section  
Southern New Jersey  
Section

### New York

Albany Section  
Central New York Section  
(Syracuse area)  
Long Island Section  
New York Metro Section  
(New York City area)

### Pennsylvania

Altoona Section  
(Altoona, Johnstown  
areas)  
Clearfield Section  
Delaware Valley Section  
(Philadelphia area)  
East Penn Section  
(Allentown area)  
Franklin Section  
Harrisburg Section  
Mid-Allegheny Section  
(Indiana area)  
North East Penn Section  
Pittsburgh Section  
Southwest Penn Section  
Williamsport Section

### Rhode Island

### Vermont

### Rocky Mountain Region

#### Arizona

Phoenix Sonoran Section

#### Colorado

#### New Mexico

#### Utah

#### Wyoming

### Southeast Region

#### Alabama

#### Florida

Central Florida Section  
(Orlando area)  
Gold Coast Section  
(Fort Lauderdale area)  
Northeast Florida Section  
(Jacksonville area)  
Tampa Bay Section

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Georgia Section  
(Atlanta area)

#### Mississippi

#### Tennessee

Middle Tennessee Section  
(Nashville area)



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# General Membership

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Carol Callan Ramler  
Shawn Campbell  
Tammy Campbell  
Kathy Carsey  
Josh Carter  
Donald Cash  
Timothy Casto  
Christopher Clemons  
James Collins\*  
Will Conkin  
Scott Connor  
John Davidson  
Shawn Davy  
Lori Dearnell  
Scott Dearnell  
Katie Dillenburger  
Mark Dole  
Caroline Duffy\*  
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Paul Durham  
Ben Dusina  
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