



Volume 18, Issue 5 - May 2018

## From Our President...



As I write my final newsletter introduction, I find myself reflecting back on my beginnings in ASHE. My initial involvement in ASHE started as the Triko Valley Section was preparing to host the ASHE National Conference in 2010. Of course, the preparation launched years ahead of the conference and Carol Callan-Ramler, a friend and mentor, asked me to help her with a committee over lunch in 2008. Little did I know what I was signing up for! I was a very small part of the planning for the National Conference, but I think I speak for everyone involved when I say how proud I am to have been involved in such a successful event. For me, it was the beginning of many friendships forged in this organization that I still hold very dear to my heart.

In 2012, Paul Schoelwer, the section President at the time, asked me if I would be interested in joining the board. Again, I don't think I fully understood what I was signing up for, but I said yes. In my career and actually in my personal life, I have found that saying yes, even when I am intimidated or unsure, almost always results in great experiences. That has certainly been the case with ASHE. I have been given the opportunity to work among friends and colleagues within this organization to support growth and fellowship in our industry.

So here I sit, 10 years after I said yes for the first time, and I am so glad I did. I thank all of you for the roles you play in making this organization great. I especially thank the Board of Directors for your tireless, selfless efforts to keep our organization moving forward. I am excited to see what the future holds for our group and look forward to the year ahead with Steve Mary at the helm.

Thank you to the panelist who participated in our Capital Improvements Program on March 13th. On April 21st, Tom Nicholson led a group of ASHE volunteers in our first Highway Clean-up effort. Fortunately, the weather was nice and the clean-up only took a couple of hours. As I side note, if you are in need of hub caps for a late year Toyota or tennis balls, I encourage you to participate when we schedule a second clean-up in the fall. Thank you to Katie Dillenburger and the rest of the golf committee for putting together the golf outing at Aston Oaks on May 7th, and we especially

## inside

*General  
Membership  
Meeting  
Information*

*March Meeting  
Minutes*

*ASHE PIN Report*

*Scholarship  
Information*

*Upcoming Event  
Announcements*



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.*

appreciate the gorgeous weather Katie was able to conjure for the event. Our scholarship is directly funded by the golf event, so a big thank you to all sponsors and participants.

A reminder on several events and deadlines: May 15th is our general membership meeting at Montgomery Inn. May 17th is the start of the National Conference in Cleveland, Ohio. I hope to see many of you there. May 18th is the deadline for scholarship submissions so please get the word out to any students you know who meet the criteria. June 6th will be our Reds Outing with WTS and ABCD. This should be a great evening of fellowship with our sister organizations. Please register now so we can get a good headcount to purchase tickets. Families and friends are welcome.

Vanessa Nghiem  
AECOM

## Event Announcements

### ASHE/WTS/ABCD Reds Game @ Great American Ball Park

Date: Wednesday, June 06, 2018 7:10 PM EDT

On Wednesday, June 6th, please join ASHE, WTS and ABCD members and their families/guests as we root the Reds to victory against the Colorado Rockies. First pitch is 7:10. This year, tickets will be in the sun/moon deck. You also have the option to purchase a ticket for the all you can eat concession stands for an additional \$20.

\*These new concession stands offer unlimited soda, popcorn, peanuts, chips, and five (5) hot dogs for just \$20 per person. The concession stands are located on the first-base side concourse of the View Level, behind Section 428, and on the right field concourse of the Terrace Level, behind Section 144.

Prepaid tickets will be distributed on May 15th at our General Membership meeting.

## ASHE PIN Report

Although President Trump released his vision for a new transportation bill, there has been no movement in Congress to craft a bill that everyone can agree to replace the 2015 'Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act' (FAST), which is set to expire in 2020. However, the FAST Act has been appropriated this year. Of that total, about \$1 billion would come from the Highway Trust Fund to meet the \$44.2-billion authorized level set in the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act. The other \$2.5 billion would come from the general fund. This is an increase of \$2.5 billion above FAST Act levels. Changes to the programs in the FAST Act include the following:

- An increase in the Surface Transportation Block Grant program formula, with eligibility limited to highways, bridges and tunnels. An additional \$225 million is set aside for a new competitive grant program for bridge replacement or rehabilitation projects in rural areas.
- Transit programs receive a total of \$13.5 billion, including \$9.7 billion in FAST Act formula grants and an additional \$834 million from the General Fund. The bill provides \$2.6 billion for capital investment grants, an increase of \$232 million above FY'17. The bill also provides an additional \$400 million for state of good repair formula grants.
- TIGER multimodal grants are increased to \$1.5 billion, \$1 billion more than last year. The maximum grant size is capped at \$25 million, and 30 percent is set aside for rural areas.

With the lack of commitment on the federal level, KYTC Secretary Greg Thomas has said "We can't count on Washington to provide more money to address these transportation challenges. As we move into the summer construction season, we have to closely monitor our cash balance due to a significant number of projects in the pipeline, as well as substantial debt payments the Cabinet owes beginning in June. Our top priorities will be limited to projects that improve safety, repair bridges and pavement and support job growth." KYTC recently passed a six-year Highway Plan, which prioritizes the most pressing needs in the Commonwealth, to include \$8.5 billion for more than 1,400 projects, such as bridge and pavement improvements, road widening, reconstruction of existing roads, and new routes and interchanges. The plan includes \$4.6 billion for mobility and safety projects, \$2.3 billion for bridge and pavement repairs, \$1 billion in federally dedicated programs (such as transportation enhancements and congestion reduction programs) and \$600 million for federal GARVEE debt service payments. The \$2.68 billion biennium spending plan authorizes construction efforts to move forward on nearly 400 bridge repairs and replacements across the state, 1,275 lane miles of pavement improvements and 230 mobility and safety projects. Still the Commonwealth has over \$5 billion in projects that have been removed from the program and more than half of the current 9,700-lane-mile of pavement in poor condition.

The future of Ohio's funding lies with the 2018 governor's race. The ASHE PIN urges you to contact those running for governor and help educate them on the need for additional transportation funding in Ohio.

# General Membership Meeting Minutes

## March 13, 2018 - Montgomery Inn

President Vanessa Nghiem called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:35 AM, and recognized several guests.

Nghiem announced that the January meeting minutes were published in the newsletter. She also noted that the PIN report was published in the newsletter with a summary being that President Trump had announced his new infrastructure plan, but a sustainable funding stream is still needed.

Eric Kistner presented the Treasurer's report, noting an operating capital of \$28,651.54. Expenses totaled \$1,607.74 and income totaled \$2,381.56.

Stan Harris gave a Newsletter/Scanner report and noted that the Spring issue of the Scanner will be delayed due to injuries sustained by the person who edits and publishes it. Along those lines, if anyone needs information on the upcoming National Conference in Cleveland, they should consult the national web site. Stan also noted that preparations for the National Conference were going well and it will have tremendous social and technical programs. All were encouraged to attend.

Steve Mary presented the program report. The May program will involve the new roller coaster at Kings Island. A possible summer tour is a return trip to view progress at 5th/3rd Arena. For the September program, Steve is exploring a speaker from the Smart Ohio program.

Brian Rhodes presented the membership report. He welcomed two new members and mentioned the ongoing membership drive. If anyone fills out the membership application, they should note who the name of the sponsoring member.

Joe Schmeltzer gave the Scholarship Committee report. The information is on the web site and applications are due May 18. Encourage your coop students to apply.

Tom Nicholson announced that our first Adopt-A-Highway effort will take place on April 21 at the northwest quadrant of the I-71/SR 126 interchange. Look for more information soon.

President Nghiem gave the Social Committee report. We are planning a Reds game outing on June 6. WTS will be joining with us.

Golf Committee chair Katie Dillenburger announced that the golf outing will take place May 7 at Aston Oaks. We need sponsors.

President Nghiem announced that it is the time of the year we are looking for officer candidates and committee members. Please reach out to any of the board members.

## General Membership Meeting Minutes

Next, the award presentations were made for the Donald Schramm awards. In the Under \$5M category the award was presented to the Marburg Avenue at Wasson project. In the Over \$5M category, the award was presented to the HAM-71-3.81, MLK Interchange.

At 12:35, Steve Mary introduced the panelists for the Public Works panel discussion. Representatives were present from Montgomery County, KYTC, City of Cincinnati, SD 1, BCEO, MCEO, HCEO, WCEO, MSD and ODOT. Some issues discussed included the \$5 permissive license plate fee, Brent Spence bridge, Kentucky pension funding issues, projects near the Greater Cincinnati Airport and March Madness predictions.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Emerick  
TRIKO Valley Section Secretary



## Schramm Award Winners



### **Over \$3 Million Winner: HAM-71-3.81**

Pictured from left to right:  
Mike Lorenz, HDR; Jake  
Stremel, HDR; Tammy  
Campbell, ODOT District 8;  
Vanessa Nghiem, Triko Valley  
Section President



### **Under \$3 Million Winner: Marburg Avenue at Wasson**

Pictured from left to right:  
Rob Lichter, John. R.  
Jurgensen; Brandon Lechrone,  
City of Cincinnati; Eric Beck,  
Hamilton County Engineer's  
Office; Ted Hubbard,  
Hamilton County Engineer's  
Office; Vanessa Nghiem, Triko  
Valley Section President



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

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# ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING

## General Membership Meeting

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

**Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 11:30 am**

**The originally announced speaker has cancelled, but we promise a spectacular replacement that has yet to be confirmed. We will announce in a separate blast when confirmed.**

**New officers will also be sworn in for 2018-2019. Nominations for 1st Year Director are being accepted. Please contact Vanessa Nghiem if interested.**

**Cost: \$25 per person if you pay online and \$30 at the door**

**Please RSVP whether paying online or at the door.  
RSVP Online**

## 2017 - 2018 Board of Directors

Title	Member	Company	Phone	Email
President	Vanessa Nghiem	AECOM	513-419-3451	vanessa.nghiem@aecom.com
1st Vice President	Steve Mary	Terracon	513-472-7029	steve.mary@terracon.com
2nd Vice President	Tom Nicholson	PRETEK Group	937-641-8267	tnicholson@pretekgroup.com
Treasurer	Eric Kistner	Stantec	513-842-8200	eric.kistner@stantec.com
Secretary	David Emerick	Duke Energy	513-287-1001	david.emerick@duke-energy.com
Regional Rep.	Nathan Moore			moore.nmm@gmail.com
3rd Year Director	Aaron Muck	Terracon	513-612-9051	ajmuck@terracon.com
2nd Year Director	Joe Schmeltzer	American Structurepoint	513-407-8317	jschmeltzer@structurepoint.com
2nd Year Director	Brian Rhodes	JMT	513-699-8579	brhodes@jmt.com
1st Year Director	Katie Dillenburger	Bayer Becker	513-492-9837	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
Past President	Nathan Moore			moore.nmm@gmail.com



# 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	moore.nmm@gmail.com
Program	Steve Mary	steve.mary@terracon.com
Social	Vanessa Nghiem	Vanessa.Nghiem@aecom.com
Membership	Brian Rhodes	brhodes@jmt.com
Student Chapter	Aaron Muck	ajmuck@terracon.com
Golf Outing	Katie Dillenburger	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
Newsletter	Stan Harris	stan.harris@stantec.com
Website	Matt Loeffler	loefflerm@bceo.org
Legislative Review (PIN)	Caroline Duffy	143engineers@gmail.com
Online Payments/PayPal	Eric Kistner	eric.kistner@stantec.com
Community Service	Tom Nicholson	tnicholson@pretekgroup.com



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## 2018 Membership Referral Reward

ASHE Triko Valley has a lot to offer its membership, and we appreciate when our current members invite others to join ASHE. ASHE Triko Valley would like to reward current members who sponsor new members with a chance to win a \$100 gift card. Each time a new member applies for membership (it only costs \$50 the first year), with your name listed as the sponsoring member, you will be entered into the drawing. The more members you sponsor, the better your chance to win. The drawing will take place at the 2018 Holiday Party. Membership has its rewards, and so does telling your co-workers and peers about all the great things going on at the ASHE Triko Valley Section!

## ASHE TRIKO Valley Scholarships

ASHE TRIKO Valley is pleased to announce the kickoff of our 2018 Scholarship season! Please refer to our website for scholarship applications and details. Multiple scholarships are available to students attending the following schools: University of Dayton, University of Cincinnati (College of Engineering and Applied Sciences), Cincinnati State and Technical College, and Northern Kentucky University. Students who are full time residents within the ASHE TRIKO Valley geographic areas of southwest Ohio, northern Kentucky or southeast Indiana are eligible to apply as well. Applications are due Friday, May 18, 2018 by 4pm, and can be found at <http://trikovalley.ashe.pro/>

## Annual Dues Renewal

Payment of your annual renewal dues deadline is May 31st!



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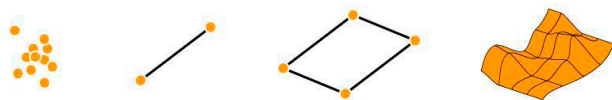


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# General Membership

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Travis Baker  
Eric Beck  
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Gerard Berding  
Steven Bergman  
Gabriel Bitar  
Douglas Brand  
Ben Brandstetter  
Lucas Braun  
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Tom Brayshaw  
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Ryan Brinkman  
Greg Brown  
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Dennis Brunton\*  
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Shawn Campbell  
Tara Campbell  
Tammy Campbell  
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Timothy Casto  
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Terry Dull  
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John Elliot  
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Nathan Fischer  
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Bronson Funke  
Dan Furgason  
Todd Gadbury  
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Paul Goodhue  
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James Jurgensen, II\*  
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John Kerr  
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Jeffery Koehn  
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Michael Prus  
William Prus  
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Anne Rahall  
Arudi Rajagopal  
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Etta Reed  
Brian Rhodes  
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Gregory Wilkens\*  
Edward Williams  
Nick Yeretzian  
Steven Young  
Heinrich Zehetmaier\*  
Mike Zwick

\* Past Presidents

## Students

Cody Havlin  
Matthew Hyatt  
Aubery Meenach  
Seng Tong Ngann  
Nicholas Okuley  
Paige Parris