

# TRIKO VALLEY NEWS



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**May 20, 2008**

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**American Society of Highway Engineers**

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

**May 2008**

**Volume 8, Number 3**

## **From our President . . .**

**Caroline Duffy, P.E.**

As this year comes to a close, I would like to thank the many who have made this a successful year. Jim Jurgensen Jr.'s efforts led the membership to grow to 172 members, an increase of nearly 15%. Thanks to John Davidson, the Scholarship Committee has eight outstanding applications to choose from this year. Jim Collins was not only the TRIKO Valley Region 1 Representative, but also the President of the Region 1 Board of Directors. In addition, Jim leads the very successful Golf Committee. Paul Schoelwer and Steve Proffitt put together the fantastic programs that we enjoyed this year. Interesting presentations from David Sikorski about Public-Private Partnership and Glenn Samples, the Official Scorekeeper of the Cincinnati Reds, have led us to look forward to our last meeting in May about the Cumberland Lake Dam repairs. Bill Lawall not only did a great job as our treasurer and PDH coordinator, but also in organizing the Capital Improvements Program with Paul Schoelwer. Paul Pfennig, Joe Vogel and Steve Proffitt's dedication netted an all-time high of 12 applications for the Schramm Awards. Greg Wilkens kept the membership informed about the turbulent political climate in which our industry is operating within currently. With assistance from Ted Hubbard, the PIN learned that the ASHE National Board has voted unanimously to reject the NCEES Model Law. Kudos to Stan Harris and Emily Casada for producing the outstanding newsletter. Dave Emericks's attention to details has produced exceptional minutes for not only the general membership meetings, the Board of Directors meetings, but also the National Conference meetings. The ASHE National Conference Committee co-chaired by Cindy Minter and myself is well on its way by securing the hotel and golf course, choosing a theme and establishing the schedule for the conference. Special appreciation goes to Koren Sprinkle for her untiring commitment to fundraising for the conference by leading the Silent Auction and Split-the-Pot efforts. Joe Vogel has headed up the task of securing insurance for the Section and National Conference. In addition to those mentioned already, a heartfelt appreciation goes to the members of the TRIKO Valley section for their support of the ASHE Golf Outing. This support has received recognition from the National Board that the TRIKO Valley Section has given more to charity than any other section within our region. With this year coming to a close, I think it is safe to say we ALL had a successful and fun year!



## From our President . . .

(continued from page 1)

Our next meeting will be on May 20 at 11:30 with Tommy Haskins, Project Geologist for the US Army Corps of Engineers, who will speak about the Wolf Creek Dam Repairs at Cumberland Lake. Please make sure to RSVP to Bill LaWall at (513) 807-2245 to guarantee your spot.

Help ASHE celebrate its 50th birthday by attending the ASHE National Conference that will be held in Hershey, Pennsylvania from June 11-14. The registration is now available at <http://www.ashe2008.org/Registration.html> and we encourage everyone to attend.

Our final event of the year will be the ASHE Lloyd Wallace Golf Outing, to be held at the Pebble Creek Golf Course on June 19, 2008. We are hoping for a big turnout, as your dedication and generosity support the scholarship fund. The applications are available on the website at <http://www.ashe-trikovalley.com/2008%20ASHE%20Golf%20Outing%20Flyer.pdf>.

Thank you all again for a great year!

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## 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL 2008 LLOYD WALLACE MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

**Thursday June 19, 2008 - Pebble Creek Golf Course**

### ITINERARY:

10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Registration & Lunch

11:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

5:00 p.m. Dinner & Door Prizes

Cost Per Golfer: \$75

Dinner Only: \$25



Please consider donating something from your company to be placed in the golfer "Goodie Bags". We are anticipating 120 golfers so we would need 120 items from your company. If you already have something in mind and it's available, please bring the items to the next ASHE meeting on the 20th of May. If that doesn't work for you call or email Golf Committee Member, Doug Brand at (513) 621-6211 or [doug.brand@kzf.com](mailto:doug.brand@kzf.com) to make other arrangements.



- Any questions call Jim Collins at 785-7285 or by email at [collinsj@ci.hamilton.oh.us](mailto:collinsj@ci.hamilton.oh.us)
- Directions to Pebble Creek: I-75 to I-275 west to Colerain Avenue North, left Dry Ridge (at Lowe's), left Prechtel, golf course is at end of Prechtel.
- To download a registration form go to <http://ashe-trikovalley.com> and click on the 2008 Golf Outing link.

1. **Commercial Activity Tax**

No change in status.

2. **NCEES Model Law**

Both Ohio and California delegation have written letters to the national ACEC opposing the NCEES Model Law (BS +30 requirement - Bachelors plus 30 hours for PE). There is discussion about moving the effective date from 2015 to 2020.

3. **Federal Gas Tax**

McCain has called for a suspension of the federal gas tax from Memorial Day to Labor Day. His proposal included a provision to hold the Highway Trust harmless by reimbursing the trust fund with the general fund.

4. **Ohio Economic Stimulus Package - \$400 million**

The proposal will invest more money into efforts by Ohio local communities to build and maintain aging infrastructure focusing on roads, bridges, sewer and water systems.

5. **SAFETEA-LU Technical Corrections**

The US Senate (HR 1195) has passed the SAFETEA LU Technical Corrections bill. This would provide additional funding for FHWA research. Two earmark projects, Magnetic Levitation Rail in Las Vegas and Coconut Road Interchange in Florida, were under scrutiny.

6. **Senate Budget Resolution Makes Room for Infrastructure Stimulus Spending**

The Senate approved a Fiscal Year 2009 budget resolution that would make room for a \$7 billion infrastructure investment package within the next several months, should Congress and the Administration seek a second economic stimulus bill. Sen. Ben Nelson (D-NE) sponsored an amendment that would double the amount slated for "ready-to-go" infrastructure spending. Nelson's amendment proposed to add another \$3.5 billion for a total of \$7 billion. The amendment was approved by the Senate.

7. **Transportation Challenges Highlighted by State and Local Government Groups**

Several state and local government groups recently released a report outlining the problem of growing transportation needs and diminishing funds to finance solutions. The report also makes recommendations for addressing the transportation crisis, including: immediate action at the federal level to address the looming insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund and assure states and localities of continued promised resources to fight congestion and other transportation problems; agreement at all levels of government that users of transportation systems should cover as much as possible of the cost of providing service; and a wide range of options should be considered when pursuing public-private partnerships to build and improve transportation systems.

8. **Federal Infrastructure**

The Speaker of the House is proposing a federal infrastructure bank to help pay for roads, subways and other projects that could create jobs and improve the environment. The new debt-selling bank would be an independent federal entity that would evaluate major projects and use various financial tools to fund them.



# TRIKO Valley News

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, March 25, 2008  
Montgomery Inn Boathouse**

President Duffy opened the meeting at 11:45 am with the Pledge of Allegiance and the introduction of guests.

Paul Pfennig made the announcements of the 2007 Schramm Award winners as follows:

- Over Two Million Dollars  
– High Main Street Bridge (B&N, City of Hamilton, ODOT, Kokosing)
- Two Million Dollars and Under  
– Columbia Square Improvements (City of Cincinnati, Prus Construction)

Paul thanked everyone who submitted projects. Thirteen were submitted this year.

Next, President Duffy thanked all of the advertisers who support the newsletter and web site. She announced that envelopes containing the Highway Club bills for 2008-2009 were on the table in the hall. New advertisers paying their bills early (mid-May) can get a free month of advertising at the end of this year.

President Duffy presented the following slate of officers nominated by the Board for 2008-2009:

- President – Joe Vogel
- 1st Vice President – Tim Peters
- 2nd Vice President – Jim Jurgensen, Jr.
- Treasurer – Bill Lawall
- Secretary – Dave Emerick
- Third Year Director – Cindy Minter
- Second Year Director – Paul Schoelwer
- Second Year Director – Steve Proffitt
- First Year Director – Kevin Savage
- Past President – Caroline Duffy

The floor was opened for nominations. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed. The motion passed.

President Duffy announced that the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report would not be read in the interest of time but were available on the table in the hall.

John Davidson gave the scholarship report. Scholarship applications are due April 25 and members are encouraged to let students know about it. The application is available on the chapter web site. Bill Lawall noted that Triko Valley gives more money to scholarships than other chapters.

Dale Schwietermann filled in for Greg Wilkens and gave the PIN report. The suit related to the Commercial Activity Tax will be filed soon in Franklin County. Ohio and California have sent letters to ACEC National opposing the NCEES model law. President Bush is not in favor of a proposal by several Governors for increased infrastructure spending. Governor Strickland will be in Monroe soon to promote his bond package which would include some money for infrastructure spending.

Jim Collins gave the Regional report. The ASHE National web site has been updated and members are encouraged to visit and give feedback. The next national board meeting will be in Pittsburgh in April where the 2008-2009 budget will be discussed. ASHE has a major expansion plan which will include redrawing regional boundaries. Ohio would probably be in a region with Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Jim also gave the golf committee report. This year's outing will be held June 19 at Pebble Creek. The information is on the front table and on the web site. The golf committee will be meeting soon.

Jim Jurgensen, Jr. gave the membership report and noted that the chapter has had a net increase of 11 members.

President Duffy gave the 2010 national conference report. A meeting was recently held of committee chairpersons. A theme of "Transforming Ideas into Mobility" has been selected. A first draft of a master schedule for the conference has been developed. Joe Vogel has obtained information regarding insurance for the conference. The chapter currently has approximately \$20,000 in the bank toward the conference budget. A draft sponsorship plan has been developed which encourages companies to sign up early in order to get discounts. This will only be available to companies in this region. Nathan Moore and the PR committee have been working on a draft logo. Golf will be at Kenton County courses. There is quite a bit of information available at [www.ashe2010.org](http://www.ashe2010.org).

The 2008 conference will be held June 11-14 in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

The following 2008 Capital Improvement Programs presentations were made:

- Butler County Engineers Office – Kar Singh
- Clermont County Engineers Office – Doug Royers
- Hamilton County Engineers Office – Ted Hubbard
- ODOT District 8 – Joe Bassil
- City of Cincinnati – Joe Vogel

Koren Sprinkle announced the winner of Split-the-Pot. Jim Jurgensen, Jr. was the winner and graciously donated his share (\$117) to the chapter.

The next meeting will be May 20 at the Montgomery Inn Boathouse when Tommy Haskins from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers will speak about the Wolf Creek Dam Repair Project (Lake Cumberland).

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stan A. Harris (for David Emerick)

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Doug Batt  
Nathan Beach  
Eric Beck  
Gerard Berding  
Steve Bergman  
Gabriel Bitar  
Charles Bode  
Douglas Brand  
Bruce Brandstetter\*  
Tom Brayshaw  
Bill Brayshaw  
John Brazina  
Wayne Breitenstein  
David Brewer  
Jonathon Brunot  
Dennis Brunton  
Charles Bucklew  
Carol Callan-Ramler  
Tammy Campbell  
Kathleen Carsey  
Devaraian Chellirh  
Keith Clay  
Jim Collins\*  
Dion Connor  
Jon Cox  
Judi Craig  
William Crawford  
John Davidson  
Jeff Darrah

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Kristin Eggeman  
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Mary Beth Elfers\*  
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Joseph Espelage  
William Fair  
Hank Fedders\*  
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Leo Flischel  
Michael Flynn  
Bronson Funke  
Dan Furgason  
Todd Gadbury  
James Griebel  
Paul Gruner  
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Carl Hartman  
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Jim Jurgensen Sr.\*  
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Gary Ketron  
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Steven Korte  
Wess Kroll  
John Lachmann  
Jeffrey Lamb  
Bill Lansing  
Bill Lawall  
Craig Litner  
Aaron Littman  
Matt Loeffler  
Daniel Louis  
Patrick Manger  
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Dan McAdams  
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Cindy Minter  
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Robert Mount  
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Ralph Norman, Jr.

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Paul Pfennig\*  
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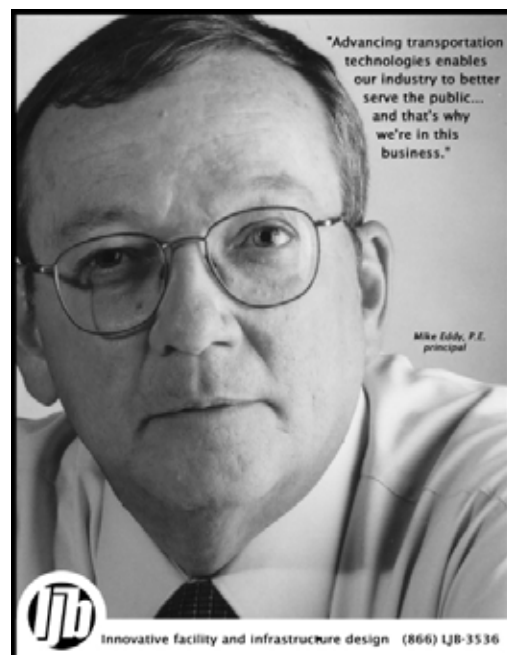
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Secretary	David Emerick	Duke Energy	513.287.2576	513.651.5229
3rd Year Director	Jim Jurgensen, Jr.	John R. Jurgensen Co.	513.771.0820	513.329.6759
2nd Year Director	Cindy Minter	HNTB	513.421.4682	513.421.1954
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Past President	Greg Wilkens	Butler County Engineer's Office	513.867.5744	513.785.4107
Regional Chap. Rep.	Jim Collins	City of Hamilton	513.785.7285	513.785.7269

### 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.

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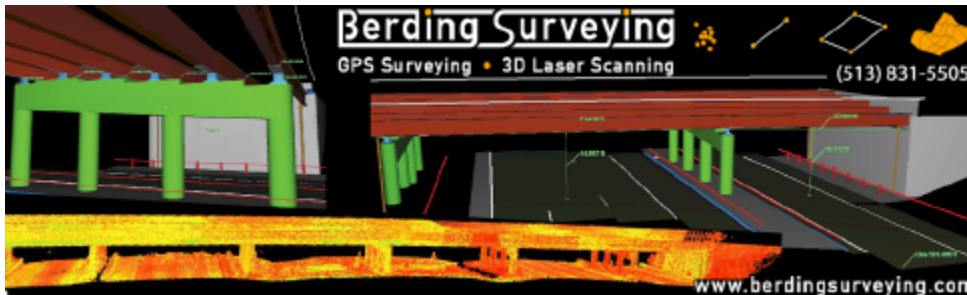
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# **ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 20, 2008 11:30 a.m.  
The Montgomery Inn Boathouse**

**Speaker: Tommy Haskins, Project Geologist, USACE  
Wolf Creek Dam Repairs at Cumberland Lake**

**Lunch Cost: \$20.00  
RSVP to Bill Lawall at 513-807-2245  
by 4:00 May 19, 2008**

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