

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.

Future Luncheon Meetings

January 27, 2009

March 24, 2009

May 19, 2009



**Holiday Dinner Meeting
December 2, 2008**

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American Society of Highway Engineers

www.ashe-trikovalley.com

November 2008

Volume 9, Number 2

From our President . . .

Joe Vogel, P.E.

It is no secret that our industry is hurting right now. Many of our members, friends and associates are concerned about the effect of this economic downturn on our industry, and on them personally. We share that concern and will do all in our power to advance the interests of our industry for the betterment of our members and the overall public.



Despite the stream of dismal news lately, we have heard some potential good news. There is talk of an economic stimulus package at the federal level, which would feature a shot in the arm for the transportation industry. As we learn more detail, look for your Board to be actively engaged through the efforts of our PIN and through individual efforts. We welcome any and all suggestions that you may have to contribute to this discussion. One important criterion we keep hearing is that they want projects that are "ready to go". My suggestion as you prepare your wish list is to consider the possibility of design/build projects as potentially eligible for consideration as "ready to go". This would greatly expand the family of potential projects if this proposal comes to fruition.

On a happier note, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all the joy and happiness of this coming Holiday Season. At this time I like to look back at the year nearly passed and give thanks for all the good in my life. In my personal life, I have my Faith, family, and friends. Good health. A warm, comfortable home. My beagle. In my professional life, I have challenging work, a network of great associates, and the opportunity to serve the public. I have been blessed far beyond what I deserve. My wish and hope for you all this Holiday Season is that you enjoy all the wonderful gifts this world has to offer.

- Joe



TRIKO Valley 2008-2009 Board of Directors

ASHE 2008 Silent Auction a Success!

The third ASHE Silent Auction was held on October 28 and 29th, 2008 at the OTEC conference in Columbus, Ohio. The Silent Auction was able to donate just over \$6000 to the fundraising efforts for the ASHE National Conference to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio on June 9-12, 2010.

Kevin Savage



We would like to thank the many companies that donated to this year's auction. In addition, we would like to thank the many workers who manned the booth during the two-day event. Special thanks go to Kevin Savage and Koren Sprinkle for their work behind the scenes. Without this team effort, the auction would not be the success it has been over the last three years.



Additional copies of the 50th Anniversary ASHE History Book are available at a cost of \$20 and anyone interested should contact Charlie Flowe euclid@embarqmail.com to obtain the book.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HIGHWAY ENGINEERS TRIKO VALLEY SECTION DONALD C. SCHRAMM TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT AWARD 2008

CATEGORIES

- Construction Cost \$2,000,000 and under.
- Construction Cost over \$2,000,000.

ENTRY SUBMISSION

- Completed entry form (Original).
- Two (2) copies of project description and related materials (see entry requirements).
- Entry fee (\$35.00).

CALENDAR FOR 2008 AWARD

- January 5, 2009 – Entry Deadline.
- January 6, 2009 - Review and rating of entries by the Board of Directors.
- By January 12, 2009 - Top three (3) rated entries in each category will be notified.
- January 27, 2009 - General Membership Meeting - Presentation to general membership by top three (3) rated entrants from each category. (Final selection to be determined by the general membership by closed ballot.)
- March 24, 2009 - General Membership Meeting - Awards presentation.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ENTRY FORM ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL

ASHE PIN (Political Information Network) REPORT November 2008

With another election season behind us, the Country now has a new leader and path to follow. What does this mean for funding in the transportation industry? It was once thought that Speaker Pelosi would be pushing an economic stimulus package during the lame duck session that would include funding for numerous construction projects. These some 3000 projects needed to be ready for construction bidding within 30-90 days of the passage of the bill. However, with some House Republicans unwilling to pass this proposed bill, Speaker Pelosi is delaying this legislation until the beginning of January, 2009. Similar to Roosevelt's 'New Deal' package during the Great Depression, several groups are taking advantage of this delay to lobby Congress to support the huge boost in spending in an effort to create jobs and kick-start economic growth. The Construction Industry alone is asking Congress to approve \$18 billion for bridges and highways.

In addition to the proposed Economic Stimulus bill, the next six-year Transportation Bill will be decided in 2009. This bill could carry a price tag of as much as \$500 billion and will inevitably be preceded by a heated debate. Many are also recommending doubling the 18.4 cents a gallon gas tax. Without additional revenue sources, the Highway Trust fund does not have enough revenue to support the infrastructure improvements that are needed. This shortfall for FY 2010 is estimated to be 46% of the \$52.4 billion that is expected to be spent in FY 2009.

This is a critical time for our industry. What can ASHE do about this? More than ever, it is important for every member of ASHE to call their Congressional representative to support the additional funding that will be before them in the next Congressional term. Go to the following links to find the link to your representative:

House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW.html>

Senate: http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

"We live in America. Voice your opinion."



2008 Region 1-ASHE Silent Auction SPONSORSHIP RECOGNITION

**We would like to thank the following sponsors for
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benefit the 2010 ASHE National Conference**

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TRIKO Valley News

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, September 23, 2008
Montgomery Inn**

Past President Duffy opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and recognition of two guests.

Bill Lawall presented the Treasurer's Report indicating a current balance of \$4,019.16 (previous balance of \$7,776.80, deposits of \$9,155.10, and expenditures of \$12,912.74). A balance of \$6,000.00 remains in the scholarship fund. There are currently 171 members in the Triko Valley Section with 17 non-paid members. The next meeting will be the holiday meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at the Montgomery Inn and the next Director's meeting will be held on October 23, 2008.

Secretary Dave Emerick read the minutes from the May 20th general membership meeting. Caroline raised a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Cindy Minter. The motion was carried.

There were 65 golfers and 45 sponsors at the golf outing in June resulting in a \$1,000.00 profit. Jim Collins was thanked for his help with the committee.

In John Davidson's absence, Caroline reported that two scholarships were presented this year.

Jim Jurgensen, II reported that our section is up to 171 members but 17 may be dropped. Our goal for this year is 180 members. We have a good start with the applications received today.

There was nothing to report on the section newsletter.

The NCEAS council passed a motion to delay implementation of the Model Law until 2020. There will be a potential education and regulatory impact. A task force will be ready by the Spring to discuss their findings at the 2009 conference in Kentucky. Many professional organizations are coming out against this law. ASHE will plan on a trip to Louisville to voice our opinion.

Caroline reported that the United States needs \$225 to \$320 billion per year to address our aging infrastructure. Partisan politics coupled with decreased revenues coming into the Highway Trust fund has resulted in problems. SAFETEA-LU bankrupted the highway trust fund this month. President Bush threatened to veto efforts to replenish the \$8 billion borrowed from the trust fund in the 1990's. H. R. 6532 was signed into law on September 12th to transfer \$8.017 billion into the highway trust fund from the treasury general fund, thereby funding SAFETY-LU until July, 2009. The presidential candidates have not elaborated much about transportation. McCain plans to veto congressional earmarks and Obama would create a \$60 Billion infrastructure bank. The ASHE National President, Rich Clifton, has sent a letter to the candidates asking how they will address our infrastructure problems

to help strengthen our economy. The President must work with Congress to address funding issues before SAFETEA-LU moneys run out in July. The letter from Rich Clifton was read to the membership.

Cindy Minter played a video advertisement for the 2009 ASHE National Conference in Georgia. Our section is considering chartering a bus to attend Atlanta for networking opportunities. The committee is looking for donations for the OTEC silent auction and for workers.

December 31st will be the deadline for Schramm Awards applications. There will be two categories- up to \$2 million and over \$2 million.

After lunch was served, Wayne Siler from Construction Process Solutions presented "Highway Claims - How to Avoid Them"

The winning number of 539928 was chosen for the Split the Pot, and \$72 was paid to the winner, Ray Schork of CDS Associates, Inc.

Treasurer Lawall reminded us that PDH certificates were located on the back table and the meeting was adjourned at 1:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
David M. Emerick
Secretary



OSU-Michigan Fans

Frank Bronzo was the lucky winner of two tickets to the OSU-Michigan football game. The tickets were generously donated by David Jones of Jones-Stuckey. Rich Clifton, ASHE National President, presented Frank with the two tickets.



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* Past Presidents

At last meeting

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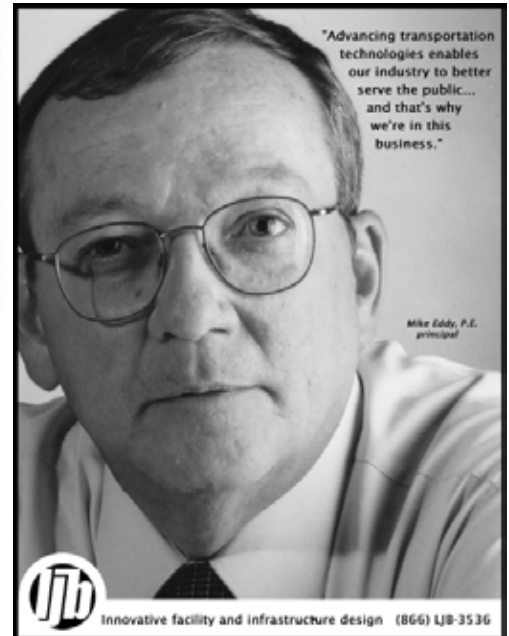


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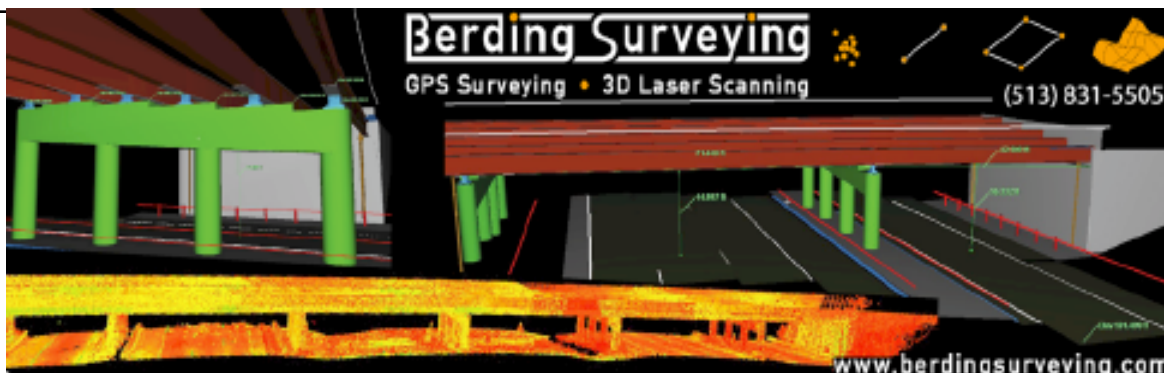
Please be sure to RSVP for meetings! Space is limited and an accurate head count helps the Montgomery Inn and the ASHE officers to better plan for meetings.

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. If interested, contact Stan Harris at stan.harris@stantec.com. Send website logos to Matt Loeffler at loefflerm@bceo.org.





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ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING



**Tuesday, December 2, 2008 5:30 p.m.
The Original Montgomery Inn**

Speaker: To be Announced

**Dinner Cost: \$25.00
RSVP to Bill Lawall at 513-807-2245
by 4:00 December 1, 2008**

ASHE
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