



TRIKO Valley News

Volume 19, Issue 5 - May 2019

From Our President...



As we wrap up the 30th Anniversary year of the TRIKO Valley Section, I was thinking back to all the changes we have seen in the last year. We have honored nine ASHE members that have been active for over 25 years with an ASHE Life Membership. Thank for your service to our industry. At this time last year, we were discussing the need for a revenue increase. Last year, ODOT's program was continuing to shrink, at least on the design side. Now we have a new Transportation Bill that will add \$850 million per year to ODOT's budget, about \$5 million for the City of Cincinnati, and \$1.5 million for all 88 Counties in Ohio. Thanks to Caroline for peppering the State House with emails - your campaign to fill their mail boxes worked! Now if the Feds can increase the Federal gas "user fee" another

10 cents per gallon indexed to inflation and follow Ohio's lead on increased registration fees for electric vehicles, we will have a 10 to 12-year solution to transportation funding. I discussed this topic with FHWA at the ACEC/ODOT Partnering Conference.

Another exciting change has been the growth of the Section as we continue to add members. The increase in student members is great, and its free! Keep encouraging your staff to join ASHE and be part of a great professional association. The TRIKO Valley Section has also increased our Scholarship fund in conjunction with the John R Jurgensen Company with the Jim Jurgensen Memorial Scholarship, starting in 2019. Let your Co-Ops and civil engineering students know about this great opportunity.

Our next General Membership Meeting at the Original Montgomery Inn will be on May 21st where Andy Pilgrim from the NCM Motorsports Park (National Corvette Museum) and the Traffic Safety Education Foundation will be our featured speaker. Andy will be discussing his racing career along with transportation safety.

The ASHE National Conference in Nashville was held from May 8-12th. Attendance was over 500 people. If you didn't make it, I encourage you to go to Raleigh, NC for the 2020 conference.

Steve Mary



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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.

ASHE PIN Report - May 2019

First, the ASHE PIN wishes to thank all that contacted their representatives in Ohio about the need for a state gas tax. In the end, the state did pass the gas tax increase of 10.5 cents for regular fuel and 19-cent for diesel fuel into law. This increase will generate \$865 million in new funding for infrastructure improvements. In addition, the transportation budget bill also added registration fees for electric and hybrid vehicles at \$200 and \$100 respectively along with a permissive \$5 license tag fee allowed at the county level raising the maximum fee levied from \$25 to \$30. Unfortunately, indexing the gas tax was not included in the final bill. One major change is the local governments will receive more from the gas tax than previously. The average city and village will receive an increase of locally administered fund of 62.5%. County engineers will see a 62.8% increase annually and townships will increase on average increase of 67 %. ODOT will see an increase of 24% in their revenues. Again, thanks to all that performed outreach with the state representatives and let them know how important this gas tax increase is to improving transportation in Ohio.

Second, the national transportation bill is again facing a fiscal cliff, with expiration of the current bill in October 2020. With the release of the Mueller Report, a national infrastructure bill is now being discussed. At the end of April, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer met with President Trump to focus on advancing “bipartisan action on a bold infrastructure bill to create jobs and grow our economy in a green and modern way.” The Speaker and Minority Leader presented the President with an infrastructure package of up to \$2 trillion over 10 years. Trump has asked Congress for \$200 billion over the same period in his fiscal 2020 budget request, which the administration had asserted could attract \$1 trillion in state and private sector spending. The outcome of the meeting was positive with a follow-up meeting scheduled the week of May 19. In this meeting, the President will propose a way to pay for the infrastructure package. It is hoped that the President will modify his transportation funding proposal presented in February 2017 that relied heavily on leveraging private financing and require states to put up a significant portion of the money, as this was rejected by lawmakers of both parties. Industry experts are pushing for a gas tax increase between 20 cents over four years to over 25 cents per gallon over five years.

Finding a compromise to the federal transportation bill is critical to the infrastructure programs of the states as many projects heavily rely of the federal monies. The ASHE PIN urges you to contact your Congressional Representative to let them know that you support a federal gas tax! Below are the links to find your representation in Congress and to contact the President directly.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

For Senators: https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=OH

For Representatives: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

TRIKO Valley Scholarships Available

The ASHE-TRIKO VALLEY will be collaborating with the Jurgensen Companies to make a scholarship award to a college enrolled student. It is anticipated that the award totaling up to \$5000 will be awarded annually. Applications will be reviewed by a joint panel of TRIKO VALLEY Scholarship Committee members and representatives from the Jurgensen Companies.

In addition to the joint scholarship mentioned above, ASHE-TRIKO VALLEY will make a secondary award totaling up to \$1000 annually. Applications will be reviewed by the TRIKO VALLEY Scholarship Committee members. Please refer to our website for details and the scholarship application: <http://trikovalley.ashe.pro/scholarships/>

2019 ASHE TRIKO Valley Section Lloyd Wallace Memorial Golf Outing

The 2019 ASHE Triko Valley Section Lloyd Wallace Memorial Golf Outing was held on Monday, May 6, 2019 at Aston Oaks Golf Club. It was another beautiful day of golf with 71 participants, 22 hole sponsors and 2 lunch sponsors.

Foursome winners included the Arcadis team (first place for Jay Muether, Ben Muether, Rob Riley, and Ryan Mraz) and the Terracon team (second place for Harold Widener, Deron Buchanan, and group). Contest winners were Jack Pflum with closest to pin, Dave Becker with longest putt, and Ben Muether with long drive. The winner of split the pot was Jay Hamilton who donated his portion back to ASHE. Thank you, Jay!

And thank you all members, for your continued support and to the golf committee for a great event. As always, please contact Katie Dillenburg or a board member with any comments or suggestions for our future outings.

2019 Adopt-a-Highway

ASHE Triko Valley members participated in the Spring cleanup of the I-71/SR 126 interchange on April 6, 2019.



General Membership Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2019 - Montgomery Inn

President Steve Mary called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:32 AM and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to this being a joint meeting with OCA and a large attendance, individual guests were not introduced.

President Mary asked for approval of the January meeting minutes. After a motion by Eric Beck and second by Brian Rhodes, the motion passed.

Eric Kistner presented the Treasurer's report, noting an operating capital of \$24,126.60. Major expenses included registration web site fees and scholarships while major income item was registrations for March meeting. Stan Harris made a motion to approve and Caroline Duffy seconded. The motion was approved.

Stan Harris said there was not a Newsletter/Scanner report but noted the upcoming National Conference in Nashville at the Gaylord Hotel May 8-11 and encouraged everyone to attend.

Caroline Duffy gave the PIN report. Governor DeWine proposed an 18 cent per gallon increase in the gas tax but the House has reduced it significantly in its version. The bill will be voted on by the Senate this week and ASHE members should contact their state Senators and support the Governor's proposal. The Federal Highway Bill is set to expire at the end of 2020. Current word is that an extension will be reviewed with a study to find a fix. See the PIN article in the newsletter for full details. Paul Gruner will be serving on an ARBTA committee to develop recommendations for the next transportation bill. If you have input you can contact Paul directly or Caroline Duffy.

Melanie Kitchen and Mark Nelson from OCA made several announcements and presented four scholarships to area students.

President Mary announced that Triko Valley's Highway Cleanup effort will take place on April 6. Watch your email for further details.

Katie Dillenburger announced that the golf outing will be held on Monday, May 6th at Aston Oaks. More details to come.

Joe Schmeltzer gave the scholarship report. Announcements for the 2019 scholarships will be released later this week.

President Mary announced that the May program speaker would be Andy Pilgrim with NCM Motorsports. He is a professional race car driver who also promotes safe driving with young people around the United States.

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Next Eric Beck announced the Schramm Awards. The winners were:

Over \$5,000,000

- BUT South Hamilton Crossing (John R. Jurgensen Co., Butler County TID, Burgess & Niple)

Under \$5,000,000

- Old SR 122 and Township Line Road Intersection (Rack and Ballauer, Warren County Engineer, American Structurepoint)

Brian Rhodes gave the membership report. There are currently 173 members plus 8 students, including three new members. Life member Mike Thompson was recognized. Attendees were encouraged to join if they are not already members.

At 11:53 am, the program began with presentations from various government agencies and utility providers. Each gave an outlook for their respective organization's capital improvements program for the year. The presenters were as follows:

ODOT District 8 – Tammy Campbell
ODOT District 9 – Chris Pridemore
ODOT District 7 – Scott LeBlanc
KYTC District 6 - Brandon Seiter
Butler County Engineer's Office – Greg Wilkens
Clermont County Engineer's Office – Doug Royer
Hamilton County Engineer's Office – Ted Hubbard
Montgomery County Engineer's Office – Paul Gruner
Warren County Engineer's Office – Kurt Weber
City of Cincinnati – Mike Mann
Sanitation District 1 – Spencer Stork
MSDGC – Pat Arnette

The speakers brought handouts to the meeting and the information will be posted on ASHE's web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Emerick
TRIKO Valley Section Secretary

Schramm Award Winners



Left: Award winner in the Over \$5,000,000 category, BUT South Hamilton Crossing (John R. Jurgensen Co., Butler County TID and Burgess & Niple).

Right: Award winner in the Under \$5,000,000 category, Old SR 122 and Township Line Road Intersection (Rack and Ballauer, Warren County Engineer and American StructurePoint).



Left: Triko Valley Past President Mike Thompson receiving a Life Member certificate.

2018 - 2019 Board of Directors

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3rd Year Director	Brian Rhodes	JMT	513-699-8573	brhodes@jmt.com
2nd Year Director	Katie Dillenburger	Bayer Becker	513-492-9837	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
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Past President	Vanessa Nghiem	AECOM	513-419-3451	vanessa.nghiem@aecom.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@stantec.com
Social	Vanessa Nghiem	Vanessa.Nghiem@aecom.com
Membership	Brian Rhodes	brhodes@jmt.com
Student Chapter	Aaron Muck	ajmuck@terracon.com
Golf Outing	David Orr	dorr@dynotecinc.com
Newsletter	Stan Harris	stan.harris@stantec.com
Website	Paul Durham	paul.durham@stantec.com
Legislative Review (PIN)	Caroline Duffy	143engineers@gmail.com
Online Payments/PayPal	Eric Kistner	eric.kistner@stantec.com
Community Service	Tom Nicholson	tnicholson@pretekgroup.com

ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING

Capital Improvement Program

Location: Original Montgomery Inn (Montgomery, OH)

Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 11:30 AM

Please join us at The Original Montgomery Inn in Montgomery on May 21st. Andy Pilgrim from the Traffic Safety Education Foundation (TSEF) will be speaking about the growing epidemic of distracted driving. The mission of TSEF is to educate new drivers, parents with children of ALL ages, teachers and grade 4 through 8 school students about traffic safety and the deadly problems associated with distracted driving.

Cost: \$25 online or at the door

Please RSVP whether paying online or at the door. RSVP by phone to Eric Kistner at 513-842-8213 or RSVP online at www.trikovalley.ashe.pro and click on Meeting Link to register and pay online.

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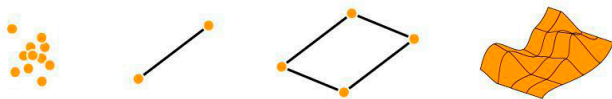


Advertising Opportunities!


\$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.

Send website logos to Paul Durham at paul.durham@stantec.com


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