

2015 - 2016 Branch Board

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Recognition and Leadership

ASCE North Jersey Branch welcomed its new Board of Directors and celebrated the accomplishments of civil engineering professionals at its Annual Awards Dinner held on September 24, 2015.

Taking over as Branch President this year is Michael P. Sears, PE of Dewberry. Currently-serving Board members remain for another term, with Heather German joining the Board as Secretary.

The Awards Dinner celebrated the accomplishments of many of our peers and provided an evening of camaraderie and fellowship to recognize these outstanding individuals:

Civil Engineer of the Year:
Michael Morgan, PE of Gannett Fleming

Government Engineer of the Year:
Robert Fischer, PE of NJ Turnpike Authority

Educator of the Year:
Methi Wecharatana of NJIT

Service to the People:
Len Pannucci, PMP of Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc

Young Engineer of the Year:
Brian Felber, PE of HNTB

In addition to the above awards, Scholarship Chair Laura Coley presented the \$2,000 Collegiate Scholarship to Kristina Espinelli of NJIT. For more about scholarships, see the President's Message on page 2.

The Awards Dinner also provided an opportunity to welcome and recognize ASCE Life Members like Wayne Haussler (below right), for their 30 consecutive years of ASCE membership.



Michael Morgan, PE (right)



Robert Fischer, PE (center)



Methi Wecharatana (center)



Kristina Espinelli (right)



Brian Felber, PE (right)



Life Member Wayne Haussler (right)

A Message from the President

Fellow North Jersey Branch Members,

It is my pleasure to serve as your Branch President for the 2015-2016 season. This year, we have an outstanding Executive Board, consisting of dedicated volunteers who will continue to bring top-notch scholarship, continuing education, and networking opportunities to the North Jersey Branch. I want to thank our outgoing President, Monir Sarker, for his service last year. Under his direction, the Branch launched a new and improved website (www.ascenj.org) and initiated an electronic voting process for prospective branch officers.

The 2015-2016 season was kicked off with our 22nd Annual ASCE Softball Tournament, which was won convincingly by Louis Berger. Congratulations to the victors and thank you to all the teams who participated. I'd like to also extend a hearty 'thank you' to our tournament director, Chris Baldwin who, in his 2nd year as the director, signed on 12 teams for the first time in the history of the tournament. Chris' efforts helped increase tournament revenue, which will be used to help fund our high school and college scholarships. Next year, we will be moving the tournament to late August in order to secure an additional playing field. Our hope is that this move will allow us to accept more teams - and secure additional scholarship funding - for next year's event. Please encourage your firms and colleagues to participate!

The festivities continued on September 24, when the North Jersey Branch hosted its 2015 Annual Awards Dinner at the Crowne Plaza in Fairfield, NJ. Award winners included Rob Fischer (Government Civil Engineer of the Year), Mike Morgan (Civil Engineer of the Year), Len Pannucci (Service to the People Award), Methi Wecharatana (Educator of the Year), and Brian Felber (Young Civil Engineer of the Year). We also bestowed the prestigious Life Member status to Wayne Haussler and honored one of our scholarship winners, Kristina Espineli, who will be continuing her NJIT education this fall. Congratulations to all our honorees! Thanks to all who attended and sponsored our event.

We have an impressive cadre of technical committee leaders who continue to work tirelessly to bring our dues-paying members the benefits they deserve. This year's seminar season was kicked-off with our Professional Issues Technical Group event, entitled "Ethics for Professional Engineers." It was held on October 1 at the Crowne Plaza and fulfilled the 2-credit ethics requirement for PE license renewal. Please keep an eye on your email for the more event announcements and be sure to register early.

I am very excited to serve as President this year. I consider myself very lucky to be involved with ASCE, having been fortunate enough to meet and work with the most selfless, dedicated group of volunteers I have ever encountered. Please consider joining us as an executive board or technical group member. If interested, I can be reached via my below contact information or at any of our professional seminars. The future success of the North Jersey Branch depends on you!



Michael P. Sears, PE
mpsears@dewberry.com
973-780-9340



Congratulations to this year's winning Softball team from Louis Berger!

Be sure to sign up for next year's tournament and know that this amazing and fun event also raises the funds we need to provide scholarships for young engineering students!



ASCE NJB Website Gets a Facelift



info@ascenj.org

Home About Us News & Awards Technical Groups Younger Members Scholarships Events Job Postings



The ASCE North Jersey Branch Board is pleased to announce that its website has been revamped and is live! The website has gone through a significant overhaul over the summer to make it more user and mobile friendly, with a revised layout and event calendar. Take a look at <http://ascenj.org/> and see what's new and happening with the North Jersey Branch!

Get Ready for the Website Photo Contest!

ASCE North Jersey Branch will be looking for artistic photos showcasing the civil engineering industry in North Jersey (no discernible faces please). The winning and runner up photos will be showcased on the ASCE North Jersey branch's revamped website, with the winner being awarded at the annual awards dinner. Both current and historic photos will be welcome, and credit will be given to the photographer on the website. Be sure to visit the website (www.ascenj.org) for more details about the contest, or contact Heather German at hgerman@Dewberry.com.



The Future City Competition is a program developed for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students to help them discover and foster interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers. With the start of the school year middle school students from across the state will be ramping up for this year's competition.

MENTORS NEEDED!

We are busy trying to find professionals to mentor schools and help them design/plan/build a city of the future. Please reach out to our mentor coordinator Jean Hansen at Jeanhans1@aol.com and she can let you know where the participating schools are located - perhaps it is near your office or home! The time commitment is up to you and the teacher; visit students once a week, once a month, have a conference call...any help you can provide is appreciated. Learn more about mentoring at the Future City website: <http://futurecity.org/participants/mentors>

Ethics for Professional Engineers a Huge Success

More than 120 people attended the recent Ethics Event on October 1, sponsored by the Professional Issues Technical Group (PITG). The seminar was presented by Steven Cohen, Robert E. Bennett, Lee M. Tesser, and Gina A. Makoujy of the law firm of Tesser & Cohen, counsel for numerous design professional firms, construction managers, and contractors. The presentation included a discussion of how Ethics relates to professional Standards of Care for design professionals and the roles that Standards of Care play in litigation for design professionals. This program was approved for 2 PDHs.



Educational Opportunities & Technical Dinners

Technical Group Leaders

Construction Technical Group
Chris Hanna (973) 462-7048
jerseyengineer@gmail.com

Structural Engineering Institute
Satish Patel (732) 452-9200
satish.patel@jacobs.com

Geotechnical Technical Group
Brian Felber (973)-434-3167
bfelber@hntb.com

Transportation Technical Group
Tony Fulco (973)-780-9253
afulco@dewberry.com

Professional Issues Technical Group
Ron Gumann rgumann@panynj.gov
Tony Pecci (973) 780-9322
apecci@dewberry.com

Water & Environmental Technical Group
Steve Flormann
(973) 849-0445
sflormann@hntb.com

Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute
Murat Utku (212) 377-8632
Murat.Utku@aecom.com

Upcoming Technical Events

November 12, 2015

“Use of the COAST Tool in Benefit Cost Analysis of Adaptation Strategies”
Presented by Jonathan Lockman, GEI Consultants

Crowne Plaza, Fairfield, NJ

REGISTER NOW at:

<http://njb-coast.eventbrite.com>



The ASCE NJ Section has formed a task force to take on writing the state report card for infrastructure in New Jersey. Led by Lou Barragan, Greg Landry and Michael Sears, the task force now has more than 15 volunteers that will assist in researching and reporting on all categories of the report card.

The task force is planning for an Spring 2016 release of the state report card. For more information about the Report Card effort, please contact Lou Barragan at lbarragan@gseps.com.



Bookmark the NJB Events Calendar on the website to see the latest Branch activities

Younger Member Group (YMG)

The North Jersey Younger Member Group (YMG) was created to supplement North Jersey Branch and New Jersey Section activities to further ASCE's goals and objectives involving its younger members. The YMG membership includes those North Jersey ASCE Members identified as "35-and-under" and maintains the following objectives:

- To introduce younger members to the benefits of ASCE membership and provide training for developing future ASCE leaders.
- To foster professional development for younger members.
- To foster the growth of Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics (STEM) programs in North Jersey.
- To foster social fellowship, networking, volunteer and outreach opportunities among younger members.

The YMG holds events throughout the year designed to achieve these objectives, and partners with the Branch, Section, and other local Younger Member Groups/Forums for additional events. If you are a younger member in the North Jersey area and you would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact us at ymg@ascenj.com.

Visit the new NJB Website and click on Younger Members to keep up with YMG activities and contacts.



UPCOMING YMG-SPONSORED EVENTS:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Oct. 17 | Practice PE/FE tests FDU, Stevens, NJIT
8 AM -12 NOON
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
(http:// practicepefe.
eventbrite.com) |
| Oct. 22 | FDU Open Meeting - Teaneck, NJ 6-8 PM |
| Oct. 28 | Stonefield Open Meeting/Happy Hour -
Rutherford, NJ 6-8 PM |
| Nov. 14 | Devils Game vs. Pittsburgh, Prudential
Center, Newark - 7 PM |

YMG BOARD

President: Christopher M. Hanna, PE
(channa@tandmassociates.com)

President-Elect: Carlos Lopez, PE
(Carlos.Lopez@parsons.com)

Vice President: Silvia Santos
(Silvia.Santos@de-simone.com)

Secretary: Laura Spadiccini
(lspadiccini@dewberry.com)

Treasurer: Daniel Borges
(dborges92@gmail.com)

ASCE North Jersey Branch Sponsors



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(mcavalcoli@gmail.com)
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