A Message from the President

Fellow North Jersey Branch Members,

I am honored to serve as your Branch President for the 2023-2024 year. First, I would like to thank our outgoing First Past President, Carlos Lopez for his dedicated service last year. I would also like to thank our executive board and technical group leaders for all of their hard work planning and scheduling various successful events that represent our industry. This past year has been existing working with our new executive board, technical committee chairs, and institute chapters on our events this year. We hosted a mix of in-person and virtual technical events that were a great success and I look forward to continued events in the future.

The fall season kicked off with our 28th Annual ASCE NJB Softball tournament on September 11th. This year, the tournament was won by Dewberry. Congratulations to the victors and thank you to all of the teams who participated. I’d also like to thank Andres Gomez-Ortiz, our tournament director, for coordinating a successful event. Our softball tournament benefits our scholarship fund. The Branch awards scholarships to high school seniors, undergraduate students, and graduate students.

Our 2023 Annual Awards Dinner was held on October 12th at the Sheraton Parsippany. Award winners included Rick Menino (Civil Engineer of the Year), Sandy Blick (Government Engineer of the Year), Kris Kolluri (Service to the People Award), Hussam Najmi (Educator of the Year), Liz DeCarlo (Young Civil Engineer of the Year), and Route 3 over Northern Secondary and Ramp A (Project of the Year). Congratulations to all of our honorees and thank you to all who attended our event! Our new board was also inducted at the dinner. We welcome Nicole Del Monaco as President-Elect, Liz DeCarlo as Vice President, and Juan Alfonso as Secretary. We are happy to have Katherine Loiselle returning as Treasurer and John Withers and Laura Hazen returning as Branch Directors.

On November 2nd, our Utility Engineering and Surveying Institute hosted our first technical event of the year: “Subsurface Utility Engineering.” This virtual seminar gave attendees an opportunity to earn 1 PDH. On November 30th, our Professional Issues Technical Group hosted an in-person event: “Positive Impact on the Profession: ASCE’s Code of Ethics” at the Sheraton Parsippany. This seminar fulfills the 2 PDH ethics requirement for PE license renewal. Our Geotechnical Technical Group hosted a virtual event on December 12th for 1 PDH: “Best Practices for Satellite InSAR Monitoring in Tunneling.”

I am excited to serve as President this year. I only recently became involved with the North Jersey Branch serving as President-Elect last year, which was in incredible experience. Serving on the board has given me a space to grow my leadership skills, provided wonderful opportunities to network with peers in the industry, and allowed me to become more involved with my profession. We are always looking for new faces to get involved. There are several ways to volunteer with ASCE including: Technical Groups, Infrastructure Report Card, Future City, Engineer’s Week, Softball Tournament, Branch Board. If interested, please reach out to me or any of the board members. Don’t wait like I did to get involved!

Sincerely,

Allison Riley, PE
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826-242-7151
Upcoming Branch Events

**ASCE NJB Construction Technical Group Presents:**

**Conrail Point-No-Point Project**

Wednesday, June 26 2024 (Virtual Presentation 12-1pm; Site Visit 2-3pm)

Speaker: David Leymeister, PE—Jacobs

Conrail Point-No-Point Project is 60% complete with both sides of the Bascule span completed with 1 major bridge to be completed over PATH. The original swing bridge was built between 1889-1901 by New York Bay Railroad and was operated by steam power from coal. The structure features five deck-plate girder approach spans and one camelback Howe through-truss swing span on a center bearing. The NYBRR was conceived and constructed as part of the wider terminal improvements program in conjunction with the company’s entry into the Port of New York, the nation’s undisputed commercial hub at the turn of the twentieth century. The bridge is being replaced by a bascule span on a new alignment in a very congestion area between NJTA, PATH and CSX Intermodal yard on a limited ROW.

Past Branch Events

**ASCE Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) - January 25—27, 2024 in Miami, Florida**

The ASCE MRLC is an annual event that reunites over 400 professionals, young engineers, and students from 25 Eastern States and Puerto Rico. The weekend conference aims to enhance and develop leadership skills, provide professional development and networking opportunities, and increase exposure to ASCE’s organization, programs, and resources. The North Jersey Branch sent 3 of their members: Nicole Del Monaco, Elizabeth DeCarlo, and Rafal Wojcik. Furthermore, the Branch was able to sponsor attendance for two students from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). They have summarized their thoughts on the experience below:

   The Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL) Conference in Miami was an invaluable experience for our executive team! The conference was a two-day series of workshops pertaining to developing leadership skills, organizing meetings, and giving us the tools to succeed within our chapters. One key takeaway was networking with other ASCE chapters and learning how they operate, and we got to bring some fundraising ideas back home. We also got to meet, and directly ask, a panel consisting of Marsia Geldert-Murphey (ASCE President), Feniosky Peña-Mora (President Elect), and Tom Smith (Executive Director) questions regarding their experiences and for professional advice!

   Overall, NJIT ASCE appreciates the opportunity to attend, and will be looking forward to future collaborations with our new connections!
Past Branch Events (...cont’d)

ASCE North Jersey Branch  and ASHE North Central NJ Transportation Technical Group—January 11, 2024

The ASCE North Jersey Branch Transportation Technical Group (TTG) held their annual joint event with ASHE North Central New Jersey on January 11, 2024 at the Sheraton Parsippany. The topic, Newark Liberty International Airport Terminal A, Design of Three Bridges N61, N62, and N63, was presented by Manual Vera, PE from Dewberry. The bridges were designed as part of the New Terminal A Redevelopment Program for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The presentation highlighted key aspects of the design and construction of the three steel girder bridges including environmental constraints, maintenance of traffic, ITS and Electronics, and construction staging. Several sign structures were replaced in this project with the largest sign being 44'x15.5'. Attendees of this event received 1 PDH.

UESI Virtual Seminar – Subsurface Utility Engineering – November 2, 2023

On Thursday, November 2, 2023, the North Jersey Branch in conjunction with the Utility Engineering and Surveying Institute (UESI) hosted their first virtual event of the year on Subsurface Utility Engineering. The speaker, Ken Kerr, P.E. of InfraMap Corp., discussed how underground utilities can have a significant impact and create risk on improvement projects during construction. He discussed the ways to mitigate these risks during design phase to avoid contractor and claims and change orders during construction. There were 46 attendees which was a great turnout as a kick off to all of our professional development events to be held throughout the year!
Past Branch Events (...cont’d)


On November 30, 2023, ASCE’s North Jersey Branch Professional Issues Technical Group hosted an in-person event at the Sheraton Parsippany on ASCE’s new Code of Ethics. The topic was presented by Dr. Brock Barry, PhD, PE, who holds the title of Professor of Engineering Education and Director of the Civil Engineering Division in the Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering at the United States Military Academy, West Point. Dr. Barry served as the Chair of ASCE’s Task Committee on the Code of Ethics. The presentation covered the new code and how it better serves our profession. The new Code of Ethics features a defined hierarchy, follows a stakeholder model, uses universal and modern language, and is concise. Did you know the previous Code of Ethics was 2,083 words while the new code is only 675? Check out ASCE’s new Code of Ethics here: https://www.asce.org/career-growth/ethics/code-of-ethics

ASCE North Jersey Branch Awards Dinner—October 12, 2023

On Thursday, October 12, 2023 the ASCE North Jersey Branch hosted their annual Awards dinner. It was a great night celebrating many achievements within the civil engineering industry, while also inducting our new branch board for 2023-2024.

We also were able to celebrate our scholarship winners as well as our newest life members of ASCE Congratulations to all!

New Board Members:
President: Allison Riley
President-Elect: Nicole Del Monaco
Vice President: Elizabeth DeCarlo
Secretary: Juan Alfonso
Treasurer: Katherine Loiselle
Branch Director: John Withers
Branch Director: Laura Hazen

Life Members:
Peter Liloia III, A.M.ASCE
Paul V Crist, P.E., M.ASCE
Peter Ludewig, P.E., M.ASCE
Alan Roy Ginder, P.E., M.ASCE
Richard C Menino, P.E., M.ASCE
Lewis Owen Morgan, P.E., M.ASCE
Ronald John Pezik, P.E., M.ASCE

Individual Award Winners:
Young Engineer of the Year: Elizabeth DeCarlo, P.E. – Michael Baker
Government Engineer of the Year: Sandra Blick, P.E. – NJDOT
Educator of the Year: Husam Najm, Ph.D., P.E. – Rutgers University
Service to the People: Kris Kolluri, CEO Gateway Development Commission
Civil Engineer of the Year: Richard Menino, P.E. – Dewberry
Project of the Year: Route 3, Bridge over Northern Secondary and Ramp A
Owner: NJDOT; Designer: Michael Baker; Contractor: Ritacco Construction

ASCE North Jersey Branch Newsletter -- May 2024 - ascenjb.org
The ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG and the ASCE Central Jersey Branch YMG successfully hosted a joint happy hour in April 2023 at Dave & Buster’s in Woodbridge, NJ. This event provided a valuable platform for young members from both branches to connect, network, and build relationships. It fostered collaboration and knowledge sharing within the engineering community, ultimately strengthening the ASCE YMG presence in New Jersey.

In January 2024, ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG attended the ASCE Multi-Region Leadership Conference (MRLC) and Eastern Region Younger Member Council (ERYMC) held in Miami, Florida. The conference provided a valuable opportunity for Mr. Rana to connect with colleagues from across the region, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing within the YMG community.

Outstanding Achievements Recognized at ERYMC Awards Banquet

The ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG’s commitment to excellence was recognized at the ERYMC Awards Banquet with two prestigious awards:

- Peers Group Award: This distinguished honor acknowledges the North Jersey Branch YMG as an outstanding group among its peers within the Eastern Region.

- Outstanding Younger Member Group Project Award: This award celebrates the impactful community-focused project undertaken by the North Jersey Branch YMG.

North Jersey Branch YMG Secretary Earns Individual Recognition

Furthermore, congratulations are extended to Jakob Guido, PE, Secretary of the North Jersey Branch YMG, for receiving the esteemed Outstanding Younger Member JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Award.
ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG Inspires Future Engineers at East End Elementary

Representatives from the ASCE North Jersey Branch Younger Member Group (YMG) – Jakob Guido, EIT, Gabrielle Maggio, and Saad Rehmatullah – recently visited East End Elementary School in North Plainfield, NJ, to engage students in a presentation about civil engineering.

The interactive session introduced the students to the exciting world of civil engineering, highlighting the diverse roles and disciplines within the field. Through a fun and engaging game, the YMG members showcased real-world infrastructure projects across the country, sparking the students’ curiosity and encouraging their participation.

This outreach program exemplifies the ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG’s commitment to fostering the next generation of engineers.

ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG Fosters Industry Connections at Stevens Institute of Technology

The ASCE North Jersey Branch Younger Member Group (YMG) actively participated in the inaugural Networking Event hosted by the Civil, Environmental, and Ocean Engineering (CEOE) Department at Stevens Institute of Technology. The event provided a valuable platform for YMG members to engage with a diverse range of students from various academic levels.

Throughout the evening, YMG members engaged in insightful conversations with the students, offering them a glimpse into the dynamic and ever-evolving civil engineering industry. They highlighted the breadth of career opportunities available within the field, showcasing the exciting projects and challenges that civil engineers tackle on a daily basis.

This participation in Stevens Institute of Technology’s Networking Event reflects the ASCE North Jersey Branch YMG’s dedication to fostering connections between future engineers and established professionals. By providing mentorship and sharing their professional experiences, the YMG members play a crucial role in shaping the next generation of the civil engineering workforce.
Volunteer Opportunities

NJ State Report Card

The ASCE New Jersey Section is looking for volunteers to get involved in researching, promoting, and preparing the next NJ Infrastructure Report Card. Please contact James Heeren for more information or if you are interested in participating: jheeren@dewberry.com.

Branch Award Nominations

Branch Award Nominations Opening Soon

Shine the spotlight on your colleagues and peers by nominating them for the recognition they deserve. ASCE North Jersey Branch will soon be seeking nominations for its Annual Awards, including:

- Civil Engineer of the Year
- Government Engineer of the Year
- Educator of the Year
- Service to the People
- Project of the Year
- Young Civil Engineer of the Year
- Excellence in Journalism

Please return completed nomination forms to Allison Riley, PE at president@ascenjb.org no later than July 26, 2024

Click here to nominate someone
There’s always room for more sponsors. Have your company’s name and logo displayed at events and in newsletters. Contact Allison Riley at president@ascenjb.org if you want to be a Branch Sponsor.