



Fall 2018 Newsletter

Fellow Cuyahoga Valley Section ASHE Members,

This is our first attempt at reviving the section newsletter. We've heard tales from the past of expensive printing and of board members slaving away at stuffing envelopes (or at least making young engineers under their supervision do so). Well this time around we are going to make things a little easier on everybody and send the newsletter out electronically. Our goal is for a quarterly newsletter that includes thoughts from the Section President and/or Board, upcoming meetings and events, news from the Great Lakes Region and National board, and any other pertinent information.

Sincerely,

ASHE Cuyahoga Valley Section Board of Directors

Thoughts from the Cuyahoga Valley Section President

Not only is this the board's first attempt at reviving the section newsletter, but it is my first attempt at actually putting a newsletter of any kind together. The trickiest part is writing something here that is insightful and hopefully not so boring that you don't continue reading all of the good information provided below. So, if at any point while reading this you start to nod off, just skip down to the Meetings/Events section and go from there.

While at the ASHE National Conference in Cleveland this past May, something caught my eye. I read on a slide at the banquet, "The Highway Industry's Premier Networking Organization." It is the first that I noticed it. Reading this got me thinking, and to be honest, a little bit excited. This was a week before I was to be sworn in as section president and I had decided that my biggest goal as president of this section was to grow our membership and grow the participation of our existing members. It's great to have an idea and a goal, but up to that point I didn't know what my pitch would be. "Join ASHE. We have good meetings with cheap PDH's." "Join ASHE. The golf outing and billiards tournament and trap shoot are fun." "Join ASHE. It is only \$45 a year." "Join ASHE. I'm section president now." All true. All good benefits of the organization (except maybe the last one). None terribly inspiring. "Join ASHE. *The Highway Industry's Premier Networking Organization.*" Wait a minute. Now we are on to something! That is something that I can sell.



If you missed it, our National President, Richard Cochrane wrote the following in the most recent Scanner and I can't put it any better:

So, what is the ASHE experience? As our website says, we are "The Highway Industry Networking Organization." Some groups lobby better than we do; some address Civil Engineering theory better than we do; some organizations have bigger conferences than we do. But when it comes to providing opportunities to interact with other professionals who have the same interests, whether in highways and bridges, aviation and freight or bicycles and pedestrians, no group does it better than ASHE.

That's it! ASHE is about networking and camaraderie and relationships. Many of us have advanced our careers because of opportunities we discovered through ASHE. Others have gained technical knowledge or business knowledge from people they met in ASHE. Project teams have been put together because the players connected through ASHE. In a business so dependent on relationships, an organization like ASHE is an invaluable tool for all of us.

Going forward, please help me recruit new members. Remind your coworkers and friends that even though "Engineers" is in our name, we are open to anyone that works and participates in our industry. Most importantly, get out to our meetings and events when you can. Get your \$45 worth. Thanks for reading. Since you made it this far, you might as well keep going and read about our upcoming events.

Nick Loukas

President – ASHE Cuyahoga Valley Section

Meetings/Events

Here is a brief schedule of events over the next few months. Check meeting flyers or contact a board member for more details.

- October 25, 2018 – Building the Akron-Canton Airport for Today and the Future, Akron-Canton Airport, 11:30 AM
- November 15, 2018 – Drones Presentation, Holiday Inn West Akron-Fairlawn, 11:30 AM
- December 2018 – Holiday Gathering, TBD
- January 2019 – ASHE/OCA Forecast Night, TBD
- February 6, 2019 – Canton Charge Outing (Tentative date)
- February 20, 2019 – Canton E-Week Banquet
- February 21, 2019 – Akron E-Week Banquet
- March 2019 – ASHE/NEOCEA Billiards Tournament
- March 2019 – Annual ASHE Project Awards Luncheon



Great Lakes Region News

There are a number of regional committees that lack chairs, including:

- Public Relations
- Membership
- Student Membership
- Fundraising

Any ASHE member can serve on these committees and as chair. If you have interest in serving on these, or any, regional committees, please contact Matt Johnson, our section's regional representative.

ASHE Project Awards

It is never too early to start thinking about the annual Cuyahoga Valley Section Outstanding Highway Project Awards. We give out awards annually in two categories, a project with construction costs under \$5,000,000 and a project with construction costs over \$5,000,000. Entry forms will be available soon and all entries are due by January 8, 2019. You can contact Matt Johnson with any questions (I know, he is a busy guy).