Well, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow and we'll have six more weeks of winter. Though it has been a mild winter with not a lot of snow, depending on where you are, six more weeks with this kind of weather, I can deal with.

Event Recap/Upcoming Events:

In January, the Reading Branch held its first happy hour since the re-launch and transfer to our Section. We had a nice turnout from members who lived in the area. The Branch leadership is continuing to seek ways to engage members from the Reading area to attend their event as well as get involved either on a committee or board level. If you are interested in getting more involved, please feel free to reach to me.

Our Younger members have been active with several events in the past few months including a bowling night, the annual ski trip to Camelback Mountain in conjunction with the Metropolitan Section YMF, North Jersey Branch YMG and Central Jersey Branch YMG and a happy hour at Bonn Place Brewing Company in Bethlehem. Joe McFadden, our YMF President is currently seeking Board members, if you are interested in getting more involved, please contact Joe.

Also, I would like to take the time to thank the ASHE East Penn Section for continuing to partner with us. We have combined of our efforts and co-hosted the Lehigh Valley Phantoms game outing which brought members from both

Continued on next page
societies to come out for a night of networking and hockey. In addition, we will be teaming up with them again in March for our annual joint meeting where Mike Rebert, PennDOT District 5-0 Executive will give his annual state of the District address.

**Engineers Week:**

To kick off Engineers Week, ASCE will have a screening of Dream Big: Engineering Our World at the Artsquest Center. Dream Big celebrates the human ingenuity behind engineering marvels big and small, and reveals the heart that drives engineers to create better lives for people around the world. In addition, students from the region throughout the week will be bused over to Artquest to see the movie. I would like to thank the EPIC committee for their hard work in putting this event together as well as our sponsors for support this worth cause of promoting Civil Engineering.

In addition, we will be participating in the annual Lehigh Valley Engineers Council Engineers Week Banquet where the keynote speaker will be Brock E. Barry, P.E., Ph.D., F.ASCE, Associate Professor and Mechanics Group Director, Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering, United States Military Academy, West Point. Brock’s presentation is titled, “Did You Really Mean to Say That” Nonverbal Communication in the Workplace.”

**2017 Report Card for American’s Infrastructure:**

As I mentioned in my last letter, ASCE is in the process of finalizing their 2017 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure. The release date will be March 9th, a week before the annual Legislative Fly-In which will be held on March 14 & 15 in Washington, DC.

And as always, I hope to see you at an upcoming ASCE event.

**John Caperilla, E.I.T., A.M.ASCE**

President, ASCE Lehigh Valley Section
LVASCE’s Holiday Banquet 2016
By: Kyle John., A.M.ASCE

LVASCE celebrated our Annual Holiday Banquet at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Allentown for the second year in a row. Keeping with our long standing tradition, cocktail hour was accompanied by the presence of Cliff Cole and Robert “LA” Williams whom provided elegant holiday music for a crowd of 55.

After a buffet dinner, the following individuals were recognized and presented a plaque for ASCE lifetime membership: Michael Gorski, Alfred Zarnoski, Richard Vanderpoool, Stanley Shelosky, William MacNair and Madicz Melnychuck.

Our section was honored to welcome board member Stephen Ressler P.E. Ph. D. as this year’s speaker. Dr. Ressler served for 34 years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is a retired professor from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point where he also served as Civil Engineering Program Director and Vice Dean for Education. Steve has a profound dedication towards engineering education and in 2007 took his skills abroad when he was deployed to Afghanistan to develop a civil engineering program for the newly created National Military Academy of Afghanistan (NMAA) in Kabul. Steve’s topic at the dinner meeting was focused on his time in Kabul and highlighted the success and challenges of the program he helped to shape at NMAA. One of the first students that Steve brought up through the program has now earned himself a position as one of the professors at the school and still remains a good friend and in close contact with Steve today. It was eye opening to hear how Engineering education is able to bring together a divided nation.

Special thanks to our event sponsors GTA and Maser Consulting. We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Holiday Banquet in December. We are currently in the venue selection process for 2017. If you have recommendations, please contact one of our board members.
The Lehigh University Fritz Engineering Research Society (FERS) recently held its 81st Annual Banquet on February 3, 2017 at the Gander Room in Bethlehem. FERS was founded in 1935 by then current and past researchers at Fritz Lab. The original purpose of the society was to promote cooperation, fellowship, and interchange of ideas among the entire membership. To continue this tradition, FERS hosts its annual banquet each spring to induct new graduate students as members and to discuss ongoing research and projects in the Lehigh Valley. This year, approximately 25 new graduate students were inducted and recognized. The speaker at the event was Greg Kuklinski, P.E., project manager and senior associate at Alfred Benesch & Company in Allentown. Greg shared some of his experiences, both during his time as a student at Lehigh University and at Benesch, to incoming and current members. His presentation focused on several projects he was involved with throughout the Lehigh Valley, along with some of the ways he has given back to Lehigh. FERS was honored to have Greg as the special guest and presenter at this year’s banquet and thanks him for all his efforts in collaborating with FERS and Lehigh University. The primary planner of the banquet was Matt Gombeda, a Graduate student at ATLSS and many other graduate students in FERS who helped put together a video shown to the attendees about the light side of Civil Engineering at Lehigh.
Eastern Multi Regional Leadership Conference (MRLC) – Newark, NJ

Nearly 450 current and rising leaders from ASCE’s Regions, Sections, Branches, Institutes, Younger Member Groups, and Student Organizations gathered for an opportunity to develop and enhance their leadership skills, receive greater exposure to the organization, operations, and resources of ASCE and network with peers and colleagues. This year’s Region 1, 2, 4 & 5 Multi-Regional Leadership Conference was held in Newark, NJ on January 20 and 21 at the Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott. The Workshop for Section & Branch Leaders part of the conference is planned by the Society Leader Training Committee with Section Member, Greg Kuklinski, P.E., M.ASCE as the principal organizer of the conference. In attendance from our Section was Mike Derr, P.E., M.ASCE, Joe McFadden, AM.ASCE, John Caperilla, EIT, AM.ASCE and Region 2 Governor Phil Gauffreau.

Organized under the umbrella of the Multi-Region Leadership Conference, three major Society components met concurrently as well as individually during this intensive 2-day event. The three Multi-Region Leadership Conferences encompass the Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders, the Younger Member Council meetings, and the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders. The groups met in Los Angeles, Newark, and Minneapolis, respectively. Attendees heard from many of our Society leaders including ASCE President-elect Kristina Swallow, and Executive Director Tom Smith. Also our esteemed members of the Industry Leaders Council and other Society leaders presented on such topics as “Building Trust;” “Barriers of Change;” “Change and Innovation;” “Engaging Millennial Engineers” and “What Makes a Leader?” Each of these presentations provided participants with information and insight into the characteristics of leaders and those they manage.

To cap off the Friday evening events, the attendees had the opportunity to attend a preview of the Dream Big Movie at the Liberty Science Center in Newark, NJ as well as the Eastern Regional Younger Member Council Annual Awards Banquet held in the Science Center. This year, John Caperilla, EIT, AM.ASCE was recognized with the Outstanding Younger Member in Government Relations Award. Those in attendance also had the opportunity to participate in a social in the Infrastructure section of the museum and were able to walk on exposed steel beams above the museum.

On Saturday morning, all participants were invited to a town hall meeting where they asked questions of the 2018 president-elect nominees, Robin A. Kemper, P.E., LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE and Kancheepuram N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE.
Dear Region 2 Members,

I hope each of you are having a great start to the year! Please see my perspective on Region 2, below.

At the January 12 ASCE Board of Direction meeting in Los Angeles, the Nominating Committee selected two official nominees for ASCE President-Elect - Kancheepuram N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE. F.ASCE, and Robin A. Kemper, P.E., LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE. This year’s election will take place during June 2017.

The Board also voted to add a Technical Institute Region Director. The Board continues to explore the optimal constitution of the Board including the Region structure, alignment and Board representation. These topics are to be addressed more fully in the Board of Direction meeting scheduled for July 2017.

In conjunction with the March 2017 release of the ASCE Report Card on America’s Infrastructure, ASCE’s leadership is already engaging with representatives of the Trump administration and Congress Members regarding potential pathways to get infrastructure legislation for resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

After years in development, Dream Big: Engineering Our World will be shown at the Smithsonian IMAX theatre on February 15, and then throughout the nation and world. In my opinion, this initiative can bend the curve by stimulating youth to explore engineering careers. Find out where to see Dream Big.

It’s going to be a very exciting 2017 and I look forward to working with all of you to make it successful!
Legislative Affairs
By: John Caperilla, EIT, A.M.ASCE

On March 9, 2017, ASCE released their quadrennial report card on America’s infrastructure. The report card provides a grade on sixteen different categories. Overall, the cumulative grade is a D+ which is unchanged from the 2013 report card. The grades range from a B for Rail to a D- for Transit. Three categories, Parks, Solid Waste and Transit declined in grades this year, seven categories increased in grades which were, Hazardous Waste, Inland Waterways, Levees, Ports, Rail, Schools and Wastewater. The remaining six, Aviation, Bridges, Dams, Drinking Water, Energy and Roads remained unchanged. The report estimates the required investment needed for each category. Over the next 10 years, the report shows that there is a $2 billion dollar funding gap that will need to be addressed. For more information on the report card visit www.infrastructurereportcard.org.

In addition to the National Report Card, Pennsylvania is in the process of putting together their next report card which is planned to be released in 2018. The Pennsylvania State Council which includes representatives from each of the four Pennsylvania Sections will oversee the preparation of the report card which will provide a similar report to the one just prepared by ASCE National. A call for volunteers will be coming out shortly, if you are interested in participating, please feel free to reach out to me.
Lehigh University Steel Bridge Team Seeking Sponsors

Sponsored by The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Lehigh University’s Steel Bridge Team is a student-run organization that applies real world engineering in order to create a 1:10 model steel bridge. The steel bridge team’s main goal is to take a student's engineering capabilities and refine them for an experience that is competitive, goal oriented, but most importantly, fun. The other ambition of LU Steel Bridge is to take home the National Student Steel Bridge Championship (NSSBC) which is held annually in May each year.

Comprised of two main phases, the LU Steel Bridge team works throughout the entirety of the school year designing (1st phase) and constructing (2nd phase) a scaled model of a steel bridge. Students are encouraged to participate in both phases so they can receive technical and design experience. Computer drafting, designing, engineering computation, as well as construction accounting are a few of the areas ventured upon during the design phase. Fabrication, grinding, welding, and drilling are some of the skills used during the construction phase.

As a student run organization, the Lehigh University Steel Bridge Team relies primarily on corporate sponsorships. The following levels of sponsorship are available:

**PLATINUM**
- $3,000+ or equivalent products or services
- Company name Painted on Bridge
- Approx. 3”X3” Company Logo Sticker on Competition Hard Hats
- Approx. 4”X10” Company Name & Logo on Reverse of Team Shirts
- Company Name and Logo on Presentation Poster
- 5 Team T-shirts given to Company

**GOLD**
- $1000+ or equivalent products or services
- Approx. 2”X5” Company Logo on Reverse of Team Shirts
- Company Name & Logo on Presentation Poster
- 5 Team T-Shirts Given to Company

**SILVER**
- $500+ Sponsorship
- Approx. 1”X3”Company Name & Logo on reverse of Team T-shirts
- Company Name & Logo on Presentation Poster

**VALUED DONOR**
- $250+ Donation
- Company Name listed on reverse of Team Shirts as a “Valued Donor”
- Company Name listed on Presentation Poster

For more information, please visit ASCE’s website: [Steel Bridge Sponsorship Packet.pdf](#)
Lehigh University Student Chapter Update

The Lehigh University ASCE student chapter had a very successful fall semester. Several professional presentations, three social events, regular chapter meetings, and the largest ASCE career fair in years inspired young civil engineers at Lehigh to expand their interests beyond statics and calculus classes. The semester concluded with a Christmas toy drive at the Bethlehem Boy’s and Girl’s club on East Fourth Street, where close to thirty children’s spirits were brightened with gifts funded by Lehigh ASCE.

Plans for the upcoming semester include professor luncheons with esteemed professors in Lehigh’s structural, geotechnical, and water resources departments, continental breakfasts at “The Bagel Table” in the STEPS building every other Friday, more professional presentations, and information for students interested in taking the FE exam. As our younger civil engineering population will begin to take on the leadership positions in ASCE and elsewhere on campus and in the professional environment, they will be well prepared by means of the extensive networking operation that our student chapter has underway.

Membership Update

By: Dion Campbell, P.E, M.ASCE

The LVASCE section membership as January 11, 2017 stood at of 537 total members, of that 93 are younger members and 100 are students. Four new student members joined the section in December 2016 bringing the total of new new student who joined in the 2016 calendar year to 58. Two new members joined the section so far in 2017.
Younger Members Forum

We are now seeking young engineering professionals to serve on the Executive Committee to help organize events and operate our social media pages. Duties will include interaction with the student chapter and hosting networking opportunities as well as social gatherings. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the YMF, please contact Joe McFadden at jmcfadden@mbakerintl.com

If you would like to get involved with SEILV or have any ideas for seminar/webinar topics, please contact SEI LV Chair, Matt Kawczenski, at mkawczenski@mgmclaren.com

SEI Lehigh Valley Chapter Officers
Chair: Matt Kawczenski, P.E., S.E.
Vice-Chair: Sougata Roy, Ph.D
Secretary: Christopher Blechschmidt, P.E.

SEILV Upcoming Events:
Look for additional information in the upcoming weeks!

YMF Upcoming Events:
Look for additional information in the upcoming weeks!

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- **Keystonse Consulting Engineers – Civil Engineer**
- **City of Reading – Engineering Division Manager**

Please visit our website for a full list of job openings and full job descriptions.
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ASCE Lehigh Valley Section Committee Chairs

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Membership – Dion Campbell (dcampbell@rkhess.com)
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Engineer’s Week – Mike Derr (mderr@gtaeng.com)
Younger Member Forum – Joe McFadden (jmcfadden@mbakerintl.com)
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THANK YOU!!

Your generous contributions to the Section are greatly appreciated and enable us to provide our members with opportunities to build relationships and further their careers within the engineering community.

Other Advertisement Opportunities with the Lehigh Valley Section

One-time ad in newsletter (includes logo on website)
$100 for business card size
$150 for double business card size
$250 for full page

Sponsor a Student
$20 per dinner meeting or event

Sponsor an LVASCE Meeting
Gold $250: Includes one (1) admission; recognition in the meeting announcement sent to entire section; a PowerPoint slide, and option to hang company banner and table for advertising at the dinner.

Platinum $500: Includes Gold above plus two (2) admissions and opportunity to introduce your firm or project.

Contact Joe McFadden via email if you are interested at jmcfadden@mbakerintl.com