What a wild and crazy winter we had this year. Between golfing in the snow in November, skiing in the rain in December, a ridiculous cold snap January into February, and then nor’easter after nor’easter in March; Mother Nature threw us a couple curveballs. However, LVASCE stepped up to the plate and provided a lot of great events through March. See, my mind is already on Spring/Summer and thinking of baseball. Go Phils!

In November, John Caperilla, Dave Wieller, and I hit the road and attended a month of happy hours and networking events. Our YMF chapter had a spirited networking event at the College Hill Tavern where student chapter members and the YMF came together to discuss the merits of civil engineering or maybe just which beer had more hops. We followed that up with another networking event for the Reading Branch where Lehigh Valley and Reading members came together to discuss the future of the Reading Branch. After Turkey Day, we headed north for another outstanding event in the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area where we met with some very excited members about the future of a northern Wyoming Valley Branch.

December saw our return to Arts Quest for our Annual Holiday Banquet. We were extremely happy to have ASCE President-Elect Robin Kemper, P.E. present to our section on her outlook for ASCE over the coming year. She also provided us with a very entertaining and interactive program discussing the four working generations. It was definitely an eye opener. While in the Lehigh Valley, Ms. Kemper was also able to visit with our student chapters at Lafayette and Lehigh. She also toured the Hoover Mason Trestle and Atlas labs with section board members. 

Continued on next page
February brought about a month’s worth of activities starting with the Phantoms game co-hosted with ASHE, a water resources dinner meeting at Wilkes University, and Engineers Week. We again hosted over 900 students at ArtsQuest to see “Dream Big” and offered a Saturday morning screening for sponsors and students that couldn’t make it during the week. Lehigh also hosted the first presentation of the Khan Lecture Series and PSPE and LVEC hosted the annual Engineer’s Week Banquet and Awards Ceremony. The EPIC committee also kicked off the Lehigh Valley Bridge Design Contest. Hopefully this will be the start of an annual competition based on the response we had this year. Many thanks to all of our sponsors that helped with Dream Big and the contest.

As we move through the spring and into the summer, be on the lookout for great social, transportation, structural, and geotechnical events coming up. The YMF will also be voting on their new board for next year while hosting several more happy hours and volunteering events.

We are also always looking for more individuals to help us plan events and participate on the board and committees. I am also looking for help with planning an EPIC LVASCE Golf Outing in August and need help. The fall of 2018 will bring about some change with the Reading Branch and hopefully we will be able to kick start a Wyoming Valley Branch and maybe one or two student chapters at Kings College and/or Wilkes University. As always, we need help with these initiatives. Please reach out to me at mderr@gtaeng.com if you have any ideas or questions. Thank you and lets all hope for some bright sunny and warm weather.

Mike Derr, P.E, M.ASCE
President, ASCE Lehigh Valley Section
LVASCE Holiday Banquet 2017
By: Dave Wieller, Aff., M.ASCE

Following an event-filled day at Lafayette, Lehigh, and the Hoover Mason Trestle, ASCE National President Elect, Robin Kemper, joined LVASCE for our Annual Holiday Banquet. Kemper, P.E., LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE, assumed her office in October and we had the extraordinary privilege of hosting such a prominent officer of ASCE.

A crowd of more than 40 welcomed Kemper and her husband Chris at ArtsQuest. Dinner was superb, but it could not hold a candle to the interactive (and entertaining) presentation given by our distinguished guest. Her presentation focused on the importance of understanding the four generations currently in the workforce and what makes each of them tick. It was remarkable that we had representation from each of the generations.

The night also featured a video compilation, produced by ArtsQuest, of the successful screenings of Dream Big. The video featured students and teachers who viewed Dream Big, ArtsQuest staff, and of course, LVASCE President, Michael Derr. Way to go, Mike!

The Section honored longtime member and current Treasurer, Chas Snyder, with a beautiful watch from his Alma matter, Lafayette College. Chas, we truly appreciate your dedication to LVASCE.

What better way to cap off the night, you ask? Well, a raffle with calendars as prizes, of course. Nothing gets you thinking about the upcoming year more than brand new calendars.

We would like to give a special thanks to GTA, our event sponsor, for the wonderful evening. What a great way to end a productive year!
February Dinner Meeting  
By: Dave Wieller, Aff., M.ASCE

LVASCE hit the road in February, hosting a joint event with PSPE at Wilkes University. The main attraction of the evening was the renowned Dr. Tom Walski of hydraulic analysis fame. To put things into perspective, Dr. Walski was named one of the 50 icons of the water industry over the past 50 years by Water and Wastes magazine. He has storied past and is currently a senior product manager for water and wastewater products for Bentley Systems.

Dr. Walski’s presentation, *The Complete History of Hydraulics in Less Than an Hour*, fired on all cylinders. His wit, coupled with his mastery of the subject matter, provided for an enjoyable overview of the progress in the field of field mechanics over the centuries. Being part of the water/wastewater field myself, there were definitely some gut wrenching memories of performing countless iterations of the Hardy Cross method by hand.

Thank you, Dr. Walski, for sharing your evening with us. We are truly fortunate to have such a legend of the industry located right here in our section.

We were delighted to have 22 total attendees including 4 students from each Wilkes University and Kings College as well as 2 professors from Wilkes. This is the first of what we hope to be many joint events.

Our goal is to keep a steady presence in the Wyoming Valley with the ultimate goal of establishing a branch. If you are interested in joining this noble cause, please feel free to reach out to one of our board members.

Thank you to PSPE and Wilkes University for being such gracious hosts.
2018 Multi-Regional Leadership Conferences (MRLCs)
By: Melissa Wheeler, A.M.ASCE

Over 400 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 in Buffalo, NY on February 9 and 10, 2018.

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 Multi-Region Leadership Conference encompassed the Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders (WSBL), the Younger Member Council meetings, and the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders. The WSBL was planned and organized by Section member Greg Kuklinski, P.E., M.ASCE from the Society Leader Training Committee. Also in attendance at the MRLC was Mike Derr, P.E., M.ASCE, Section President and Younger Members: Mark Hammerstone, EIT, A.M.ASCE and Kevin Savage EIT, A.M.ASCE. Mike was a moderator for a Best Practices Breakout Session titled, “Dream Bigger in the Lehigh Valley Section” about the Dream Big movie activities.

The conferences offer the chance for attendees to get to know their Region Directors and Governors as they lead breakout sessions and roundtable discussions. Attendees heard from many of our Society leaders including ASCE President Kristina Swallow, President-Elect Robin Kemper, and Executive Director Tom Smith. Esteemed members of the Industry Leaders Council and other Society leaders presented on such topics as “Personality as it Relates to Leadership;” “Managing the Disruption of the Civil Engineering Profession;” “Supercharge your Leadership Skills;” and “What Makes a Leader?” Each of these presentations provided participants with information and insight into the characteristics of leaders and those they manage.

On Friday evening, attendees were invited to Canalside for ice skating on the snowy ice rink and curling after a social at the Pearl Street Grill.

On Saturday morning, all participants were invited to a town hall meeting where they asked questions of the 2019 president-elect nominees, Louis C. Aurigemma, P.E., F.ASCE and Kancheepuram N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE.
On September 17-18, 2017, 92 Section and Branch Presidents, Region Governors and Society Directors from across the country and abroad attended the annual Presidents and Governors Forum (PGF) in Reston, VA at ASCE Headquarters. The conference included attendees from all 9 Domestic Regions as well as Region 10. We were honored to have 4 International Section and Group Leaders join us, representing Sri Lanka, Israel, India and Nigeria. This event was organized and moderated by Section Member Greg Kuklinski, P.E., M.ASCE of ASCE’s Leader Training Committee (LTC). Also in attendance from the Lehigh Valley Section was Region 2 Governor Phil Gauffrau, P.E., M.ASCE, Section President Mike Derr, P.E., M.ASCE and Reading Branch member Kyle Turner, EIT, A.M.ASCE.

The purpose of the PGF is to provide a venue for current Section/Branch and Region Leaders to gain the knowledge to effectively and efficiently run their local units. The conference provides an opportunity for attendees to network and brainstorm with each other, gain leadership skills, learn about ASCE resources from other ASCE volunteers and staff and discuss Best Practices to take back to your Section/Branch. Networking receptions were held on both Saturday and Sunday, with a group dinner on Sunday attended by many of the conference attendees.

On Sunday, topics included an Introduction to your Presidency and How to Utilize your Governors; an Introduction to Region 10; Roundtable Discussions on Section and Branch Challenges; How to Be A GREAT Leader at Work and in ASCE and ASCE Resources. Seasoned Section and Branch leaders and Region Governors spoke about their experiences in Utilizing Life Members, and Using Social Media in their Section and Branch. President Mattei, President-Elect Swallow, and Executive Director Tom Smith also shared their thoughts and experiences. The conference continued on Monday with additional Section and Branch Best Practice breakout sessions on Developing a Section/Branch Program Committee & Being a Successful Program Chair, Struggling Sections/Branches, Developing a State Infrastructure Report Card, Creating a Section/Branch Survey, Student (K-12) Outreach and Maintaining Vibrancy in your Section or Branch. The program was topped off with a presentation on Legal issues for Sections and Branches and closing remarks by President-Elect Elect Kemper. All of this information will help the attendees effectively run their Section/Branch as they utilize their implementation plan for their Presidential Year.
Free “Dream Big” Screening Return to SteelStacks for National Engineers Week
By: Stephen Ressler, P.E., Ph.D., Dist.M.ASCE

An all-female engineer panel celebrating “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day” on Feb. 22 highlighted the second year of the “Dream Big” educational initiative at SteelStacks this February. LVASCE and ArtsQuest once again partnered to strengthen STEM-based education during National Engineers Week, as area middle and high schools were invited to discover how engineering has helped transform our world by attending free screenings of the acclaimed educational film, “Dream Big: Engineering Our World,” at the ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks.

Two student screenings per day took place Feb. 20-23, and an additional open screening was conducted on Saturday, Feb. 24. Following each student screening, the students took part in a Q&A session with local engineers who volunteered to support the Dream Big project. On Feb. 22, students had the opportunity to meet and speak with an all-female engineer panel featuring RETTEW Project Engineer Elizabeth Helsel, Harsco Industrial Patterson-Kelley Process Engineering Manager Laureen Pellegrino, Praxair Inc. Facility Superintendent Carly Scuderi and EnviroAce Founder and President Mary Rooney.

“Being an engineer is a great career; it provides interesting projects to work on and a good salary, but its hard work to get there,” says Rooney, a member of the Lehigh Valley Section of The Society of Women Engineers, who in 2017 was named the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers’ Lehigh Valley Chapter Engineer of the Year. “Just 30 years ago, five percent of the engineering graduates were women. Now it’s about 20 percent, but we still have a long way to go.

“In putting forth an all-female panel, we want to make a clear statement about the success of women engineers and to let our enthusiasm for our careers show. We hope the film and this panel will encourage girls in the audience to voice their questions now and to persist in school in the study of math and science. Big dreams take hard work.”

After last year’s successful screenings of “Dream Big” to more than 700 students in the region, ArtsQuest Education and Outreach Director Lisa Harms, LVASCE President Michael Derr and LVASCE Education and Professionals Integration Committee Chair Stephen Ressler brought the film back to SteelStacks—and achieved a significant increase in participation for 2018.

“ArtsQuest was thrilled to once again partner with ASCE to celebrate National Engineers Week,” Harms says. “This unique collaboration utilized the Frank Banko Alehouse Cinemas as a venue for ASCE to provide free school screenings of ‘Dream Big.’ In 2017, everyone was blown away by the positive response we received from students and teachers.

“The film itself is amazing and unlike anything most of us had ever seen. The Q&A sessions with the panel of engineers really engaged students and got them thinking about careers in engineering. It was wonderful to see the impact this experience had on so many students.”

The Allentown, Allentown Diocese, Bethlehem, East Penn, Parkland, and Nazareth school districts participated in the 2018 Dream Big screenings.

The innovative partnership between ArtsQuest and the Lehigh Valley Section of ASCE is an educational initiative developed by the LVASCE Education and Professional Integration Committee, which focuses on acquainting students with the practice of civil engineering by offering educational programs, presentations and activities related to the profession.

Continued on next page
“Dream Big” is designed to educate students about the essential role engineers play in our world, help raise awareness and change perceptions about the profession, and inspire young people to consider careers in engineering. Through its strong focus on education, the film enhances students’ understanding of engineering and inspires them to learn more about the “E” in STEM, the curriculum-based approach to preparing students for the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The film, created by the Academy Award nominated producers of Everest and The Living Sea, takes viewers on a journey of discovery from the world’s tallest building to a bridge higher than the clouds. Along the way, audiences witness how today’s engineers are shaping the world of tomorrow.


**Reading Branch Update**

The Reading Branch of the Lehigh Valley Section held another networking event at the Canal Street Pub and Restaurant in Reading on November 16, 2017. About 10 members attended and discussed plans for additional outreach efforts in the upcoming year as well as enjoying general fellowship and merriment. The Branch is tentatively planning an event for April of 2018. Please check with the Lehigh Valley Section for updates!
Legislative Affairs
By: John Caperilla, E.I.T., A.M.ASCE

Several Key Issues have been making headlines both here in Pennsylvania and nationally. A brief summary of those issues are provided below.

Trump Infrastructure Plan:
The Trump Administration recently released his Infrastructure Plan in which he asks Congress to act on a Infrastructure Bill that will provide at least $1.5 trillion in new investment over the next ten years, shorten the approval process for approving projects to 2 years or less, address unmet rural infrastructure needs, empowering State and Local agencies and training America’s workforce.
The 53 page proposal broken out into four parts, Funding & Financing Infrastructure Improvements, Additional Provisions for Infrastructure Improvements, Infrastructure Permitting Improvement and Workforce Development. To see the full proposal, please visit the website link below.

Governor Wolf’s proposed 2018-2019 Budget:
Governor Tom Wolf delivered his Budget Address to the General Assembly on February 6th. The Senate and the House are currently discussing the proposal. A budget needs to be approved and signed by the Governor before the end of the fiscal year on June 30th.
The proposed $32.9 billion General Fund budget provides an increase of $989.8 million or 3.1% increase over the last year. Key highlights within the Governor’s budget proposal include investments in workforce development, roads and bridges and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
Details of the Governor’s Proposal are located in the website link below.
http://www.budget.pa.gov/PublicationsAndReports/CommonwealthBudget/Pages/default.aspx

Pennsylvania Congressional Districts:
The Pennsylvania State Supreme Court recently ruled that Pennsylvania’s Congressional District Boundaries were gerrymandered and in violation of the Pennsylvania Constitution. The ruling noted that the General Assembly would need to re-draw the congressional map and have it approved by the Governor by February 19, 2018 or the Supreme Court would draw their own map.
A recent article published by Penn Live provides a comprehensive overview of this issues and where we stand to this point.
Dear Members,

MRLC
The ASCE Multi-Region Leadership Conference held on February 9-10 in Buffalo NY was a great success. Section, Branch, Younger Member and Student leaders from Regions 1, 2, 4 and 5 gathered for training, and to form/renew friendships. Nick DeNichilo, President and CEO of Mott MacDonald shared insights on leadership and professional ethics. In the evening, some attendees even tried their hand at curling!

Region 2 Awards
We received a tremendous response to our request for nominations for the 2018 ASCE Region 2 Awards. I commend all nominees for their accomplishments and contributions to the Society, and the profession. The Awards Committee selected the following individuals to receive awards in their respective category: I will personally travel to each awardee’s Section meeting to present their award. Congratulations to all!

- 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award
  - Frank S. Waesche III, P.E., Maryland Section
- 2018 Outstanding Faculty Advisor
  - Ahmet Zeytinci, Ph.D., P.E., F. ASCE, F. NSPE, University of the District of Columbia, NCS
- 2018 Outstanding Student Member
  - Cory Bogas, Temple University, Philadelphia
- 2018 Outstanding Younger Member
  - Angela M. Mayer, E.I.T., A.M. ASCE, Pittsburgh Section

Dream Big Initiative
In 2018, ASCE would like to place a DVD copy of Dream Big: Engineering Our World with lesson plans in every public school in our country. A donation from the United Engineering Foundation provided a great start. You can help ASCE reach every public school by going to https://www.engineersdreambig.org and contributing $5 to have Dream Big in a school of your choice; maybe even to a school that you attended.

Until next time,

John Casana, P.E., F. ASCE, D. WRE, LEED AP
ASCE Director
Lehigh University Student Chapter Update
By: Chris Guilcapi, A.M.ASCE

The Lehigh University chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers has been active with many events geared toward students advancing in their professional development. We are holding faculty lunch and learns and company presentations. Holding events with the faculty allow students to talk about research interests and future career plans outside the classroom setting in a more relaxed atmosphere. Companies such as Benesch and Alvin H. Butz Inc. will also be presenting to students about current and future career opportunities. The executive board and practitioner advisor, Greg Kuklinski, attended the Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders in Buffalo, NY held in February aimed at leadership development in the chapter. We are also holding social events throughout the semester with the Lehigh Valley Section of Younger Members at Molly's to allow for more networking opportunities. This semester has seen an increase in student participation as students start to choose their major and focus on the civil engineering profession.

The fall semester at Lafayette College is busy as ever with classes well on their way and too many extra-curriculars to choose from. Lafayette played host to several lunch and learns including Professor Emeritus David J. Elton, Ph.D., P.E. of Auburn University talk on “teachable moments” from past geotechnical engineering failures and another from Lehigh Valley native Eric A. Himmelwright on his work as structural connection detailer at Lehigh Valley Technical Associates. Steel bridge is ramping up as students finalize their design for the spring regional competition, and keep an eye on the national title. The students are also getting a chance to see state of the art construction techniques with the ongoing construction of the LEED Gold certified Integrated Science Center, scheduled to open in the fall of 2019. If you need an excuse to take a peek at the construction, join us for Happy Hour at College Hill Tavern on Thursday November 9. Hope to see you there!
**LV Phantoms Hockey Game**  
**By: Dion Campbell, P.E., M.ASCE**

The Lehigh Valley Section and ASHE East Penn held a joint social function to watch the Lehigh Valley Phantoms play the Charlotte Checkers at the PPL Center in Allentown on February 2. Tickets were purchased through ASHE and included entrance to the Ice Level Party Suite. Prior to the game and between periods members met to enjoy beverages and complimentary appetizers in the party suite. The suite features prime viewing of the High Five Tunnel outside of the Phantoms Locker room. The tunnel allows youth organizations the opportunity to greet the players as they leave the locker to make their way onto the ice before the start of the game and between each period.

This year the crowed was treated to a 3-2 come from behind win by the home team. The Checkers scored the first goal of the game toward the end of first period. The Phantoms came back to tie the game early in the second period and then scored a second goal to end the second period with a 2-1 lead. The Checkers rallied back to tie the game at 2-2 early in the third period. Both teams had several good rushes with quality scoring chances during the third period before the Phantoms netted the game winner with a shot from the slot that knuckleballed low into the left side of the goal. It was the only goal scored at the end were our seats were.

All in all it was an exciting back and forth game that made for an enjoyable evening.

**ASCE Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL)**  
**By: Chris Guilcapi, A.M.ASCE**

The Lehigh Chapter of ASCE sent 5 executive board members to this year's ASCE Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders conference held in Buffalo, NY. This conference helped our members with ideas for future events, fundraising activities, and leadership skills. Our members were able to network with other ASCE chapters and professionals in the workforce through the various events held throughout the conference. Events included focus sessions on membership recruitment and retention, public service, and tips for leadership. We also participated in the social events held in the evenings of the conference such as ice skating and a dinner sponsored by ASCE. Our group learned and took away a lot of ideas and knowledge from this conference paving the way toward a bright future for the Lehigh University ASCE chapter.

**Membership Update**  
**By: Kyle John, A.M.ASCE**

The LVASCE Section Membership as of February 12, 2018 stood at 709, 179 of which are from our newly added Reading Branch. There are 132 student members, 24 of which are in the Reading Branch. So far for the 2018 calendar year, there have been 12 new members.
ERYMC Roundup
By: Kevin Savage, E.I.T., A.M.ASCE

Mark Hammerstone and Kevin Savage from the Lehigh Valley Section Younger Members Forum attended the Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC) in Buffalo, New York from February 9 to 10. ERYMC brought together younger members from across Regions 1, 2, 4 & 5 for a busy two days of networking, leadership activities, fun social activities and of course, a little snow. ASCE leadership was on hand for some inspiring words, including presenting their vision and upcoming initiatives for the future of ASCE. The leadership also hosted a game of ASCE trivia - though both Mark and Kevin failed to crack the top 10. Friday was capped off by some curling and ice skating at Canalside in downtown Buffalo while the weekend ended with a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin house. Throughout the weekend, Mark and Kevin interacted with section, branch and student chapter leaders, who held workshops concurrently.

YMF President Shares Experience with Students
By: Joe McFadden, A.M.ASCE

On February 21, 2018, YMF President Joe McFadden A.M. ASCE, spoke to about 30 Juniors and Seniors at Lafayette University for fellow alumni Dr. David Veshoky's elective course on Construction Management. Joe briefed the class on his 8 year CM career at Michael Baker International since graduating from The Catholic University of America in 2010 and how his involvement with ASCE helped ease the transition from academia to the professional world.
SEI Lehigh Valley Chapter Announcement

Save the Date! SEI Lehigh Valley Section will be hosting our 6th annual half-day seminar in the afternoon on August 16, 2018 at Lehigh’s ATLSS Building, with four different speakers and 4 PDH’s. More details to follow soon!

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:

ASCE Webinar
Summer 2018
Look for additional information in the upcoming weeks!

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

Program – Dave Wieller (DWieller@orton-lawson.com)
Membership – Kyle John (kjohn@aegispg.com)
Nominating & Awards – John Caperilla (jcaperilla@orton-lawson.com)
Engineer’s Week – Steve Ressler (sjressler@gmail.com)
Younger Member Forum – Joe McFadden (jmcfadden@mbakerintl.com)
Student Chapter Liaison – Eric Himmelwright (ehimmelwright@lvta.net)
Continuing Education – Dave Wieller (DWieller@orton-lawson.com)
Legislative Affairs – John Caperilla (jcaperilla@orton-lawson.com)
Hospitality – Chas Snyder (csnyder@pennoni.com)
Engineering Professionals Integration - Steve Ressler (sjressler@gmail.com)
History & Heritage – Dave Wieller (DWieller@orton-lawson.com)
Geotechnical – Phil Gauffreau (pgauffreau@maserconsulting.com)
Structures – Matthew Kawczenski (mkawczenski@mgmlaren.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

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Sponsor an LVASCE Meeting
Bronze ($100): Firm Logo in event announcements and displayed on screen at event or printed in program
Silver ($250): All items listed in Bronze, plus two (2) admissions to event; and option to hang company banner and table for advertising at the dinner.
Gold ($500): All items listed in Silver, except four (4) admissions to event and opportunity to introduce firm or scrolling slide show during dinner or cocktail hour

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