

## President's Message

ASHE Members, Colleagues, and Friends,

As my term as ASHE Central Ohio President concludes, I want to thank all of our members and our Board for your continued involvement and support of our organization. It has been a very unusual year and hopefully not one that we will soon repeat. While not able to meet in person, we have continued many of our normal programs, including successfully holding the annual CIP Luncheon, participating in Engineers Week, providing continuing education programs, and supporting our scholarship fund and the Future Cities competition. This will continue in May and June with our upcoming scholarship event, ADA training in coordination with the City of Columbus, Project-of-the-Year Event, and Ronald Zook Memorial Golf Outing.

As the 2021 Virtual ASHE National Conference approaches, our planning team for the 2022 National Conference here in Columbus will be ramping up planning efforts. A continued thank-you to all of our members who are involved in that effort. If you have an interest in helping out, and have not yet been involved, please feel free to reach out to me or one of the other ASHE Board members. This will be the first non-virtual ASHE national conference post-COVID. So, we are expecting a large turnout and are excited to be the ones to host the return to normalcy!

While there is currently a new spike in COVID cases in Central Ohio the deployment of vaccines holds promise for this coming year. We hope to see you all soon with in-person events this summer once it can be done safely, including the outdoor Golf Outing.

I look forward to assisting the incoming president, Justin Soltesz, and the incoming board of directors next year in my role as Past President. I also hope to see everyone again in person soon. Until then, stay safe, and I wish you and yours the best.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Central Ohio ASHE President this past year!!

Tom Less  
Central Ohio ASHE President



## 2020 / 2021 Central Ohio ASHE Board of Directors

### **President**

Tom Less  
Woolpert



### **First Vice-President**

Justin Soltesz  
American Structurepoint



### **Second Vice-President**

Mike Killian  
Burgess & Niple



### **Secretary**

Mike Taricska  
Burgess & Niple



### **Treasurer**

Mike Raubenolt  
American Structurepoint



### **Past President**

Sean Oatman  
OHM Advisors



### **Directors**

#### **Programs**

Cole Marburger  
Gannett Fleming



#### **Public Relations**

Dan Schmuhl  
Carpenter Marty



#### **Technical**

Chad Rundle  
DLZ



#### **Membership / Legislative Liason**

Jordan Gort  
Strand



#### **Regional Representative**

Aaron Call  
OHM



#### **Scholarship**

Danny Soroka  
Burgess & Niple



#### **Golf Outing Coordinator**

Paul Denny  
Woolpert



# ASHE Great Lakes Region Virtual Event

On January 28th, 2021, our Great Lakes Region hosted a **National Update** and **2020 Great Lakes Region Outstanding Transportation Project Awards** virtual event.

Attendees heard ASHE National President, Tim Matthews, PE, provide an update on ASHE National initiatives and the overall health of our organization. This National update was followed by a presentation of the 2020 ASHE Great Lakes Region Outstanding Transportation Project Awards where recipients from the winning teams delivered brief technical presentations on their project.



**[1] NEW SECTION!**  
Tennessee Valley

**[5] EMERGING SECTIONS!**  
South Carolina, New Mexico, Alabama, Austin, TX & Hartford, CT

**Membership Occupation:**  
12% Government  
75% Consultants  
5% Contractor  
8% Other

**Members Licensed:**

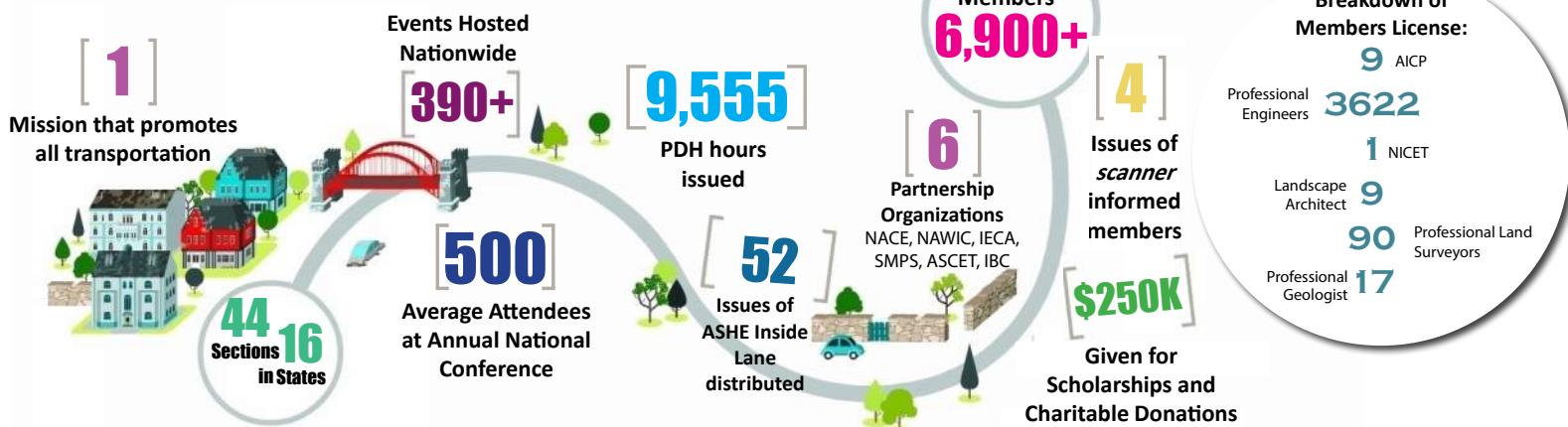
**56%**

**Breakdown of Members License:**

9 AICP  
Professional Engineers 3622  
1 NICET  
Landscape Architect 9  
90 Professional Land Surveyors  
Professional Geologist 17

Through over 390 events, members benefited from networking, leadership and education through a forum of experts within the transportation industry. Check out the highlights of the year below!

2021 Conference - June 9-13, 2021 in Poconos, PA!  
Info at: [www.ashe.pro/conference.html](http://www.ashe.pro/conference.html)



**Under \$5M**

**Lincoln Way Streetscape**

**Owner:** City of Massillon

**Contractor:** Central Allied Enterprises

**Designer:** OHM Advisors



**Over \$5M**

**I-670 Hard Shoulder Running (SmartLane)**

**Owner:** ODOT District 6

**Contractor:** Complete General

**Designer:** Burgess & Niple, Inc. & Gannett Fleming



## Top Golf Outing

On October 6th, 2020, Central Ohio ASHE members gathered for a socially distanced, open-air, happy hour at the Top Golf entertainment venue in north Columbus. A great time was had as attendees worked on perfecting their golf swing!



## E-Week Virtual Luncheon

Each year, the local professional engineering organizations around central Ohio come together to plan a luncheon in recognition of the National Engineers Week (E-Week). While this year's event, which was held on February 25, 2021, did not have the traditional lunch, two well-respected local engineers delivered keynote speeches centered around the theme of "Imagineering Tomorrow". Mandy Bishop, PE, SI provided her perspective as the City of Columbus' Deputy Director of Public Service assigned as the Smart Columbus Program Manager. Joanna Pinkerton, PE, President / CEO of the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) followed Mandy by sharing her insight on engineering as it relates to herself and Central Ohio bus transit. We'd like to thank both of these presenters for their insightful presentations and the inspiration that they provide to engineers young and old.



## 2021 Infrastructure Report Card

In February, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), released its 2021 Report Card for America's Infrastructure. This study found that the nation's infrastructure earned a cumulative grade of C-. While this is an improvement over the 2017 cumulative grade of D+, 11 categories still showed "D" range grades. The full report can be viewed at the following website... [www.infrastructurereportcard.org](http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org).

Ohio's grades are also summarized below:

### Ohio's Infrastructure Report Card:

Overall: C-

Bridges: C+

Dams: C-

Drinking water: D+

Energy: C

Hazardous waste: D+

Inland waterways: D+

Levees: D

Parks: C-

- Ports: C

- Rail: B

- Roads: D

- Schools: C+

- Solid waste: B-

- Stormwater: D+

- Transit: D

- Wastewater: C-



## Future Cities Program

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the Central Ohio ASHE Board made the decision to support this year's Future Cities Competition (FCC) with a \$1000 Silver level sponsorship. Future City is a powerful tool that strengthens students' 21st century skills, teaches them civics concepts, motivates them to study math & science, and introduces them to potential careers in the STEM fields.

This year's annual competition was held virtually on January 9th. Teams of sixth through eighth graders from Ashland, Franklin, Hamilton, and Medina Counties researched technologies, designed cities, presented plans and models, and wrote 1,500-word essays on the topic, "Living on the Moon".

Remote Learning Academy in Dublin took 1st place with Indian Hill Middle School from Cincinnati in 2nd place, and Crestview Middle School in Ashland taking 3rd place. Ohio EPA Director Laurie A. Stevenson stated, "The Future City competition teaches our children to think about current and future urban planning challenges and finding solutions with technology, engineering, and innovation."

The link below provides more information about the competition: <https://futurecity.org>



## ASHE Capital Improvement Program

On February 17th, 117 attendees tuned into Zoom to virtually learn about four major capital improvement programs in the Central Ohio area. As in the past for this annual event, this year's Central Ohio ASHE program featured presenters from the City of Columbus, Delaware County, Franklin County, and ODOT District 6. As always, the presentations were very informative, covered successes from the past year, and offered a glimpse into what projects are expected in the coming year. Central Ohio ASHE would like to thank the 5 speakers that made this event possible...



James Young, PE - Div. Admin. of Design & Construction,  
City of Columbus



Rob Riley, PE, PS - Chief Deputy Engineer,  
Delaware County



Cornell Robertson, PE, PS  
Franklin County Engineer



Lori Niese Duguid, PE, PTOE, Deputy Director ODOT D6



Thom Slack, PE, Capital Programs Administrator, ODOT D6

## 2022 ASHE National Conference Update

In case you didn't know...

Columbus will be hosting the 2022 ASHE National Conference next year!!

This is exciting news, not only because this is a great opportunity to showcase Columbus and our local infrastructure in a national spotlight, but also because it will be the first post-COVID ASHE National Conference. Shortly after next month's virtual conference hosted by the Delaware Valley / East Penn / North East Penn ASHE Sections, you will start to see more information on our website (<http://2022conference.ashe.pro/>) and via email regarding this event including sponsorships and limited exhibit booth opportunities.

Mark your calendars now!!

Renaissance Downtown Columbus Hotel - May 12-15, 2022.



Hosting Section: Central Ohio

Location: Columbus, OH

Dates: May 12 - 15, 2022



# The American Society of Highway Engineers

## 5TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP EVENT

**Wednesday, May 26, 2021  
12:00 PM to 1:15 PM**

**Virtual – Zoom Link on Eventbrite**

We are happy to be joined by:



*Meet last year's scholarship recipients, enter for a chance to win raffle items, and....*



*Learn about the planning, design, and construction of the new Columbus Crew Stadium at Astor Park set to open in July 2021!*

**Speakers Include:**

**Phil Dangerfield**

VP, Operations  
Haslam Sports Group

**Steve Schmidt**

Project Manager/Engineer  
City of Columbus

### Registration is **FREE!**

Optional donations can be made to the scholarship fund through this [Eventbrite](#) link.

**RAFFLE TICKETS** are also available to purchase through the Eventbrite link. Tickets can be purchased during or after registration and winners will be announced during the event! Raffle items include:

- Wine delivery gift cards
- Columbus Crew Tickets
- Columbus Crew Merchandise

### Event and Scholarship Fund Sponsorship

**Gold Sponsor: \$500**

**Silver Sponsor: \$200**

All scholarships this year will be funded through sponsorships. We appreciate your continued support of the Students!

See Eventbrite link below or reach out to Daniel Soroka for additional ways to sponsor

**Register for the Event by May 25th [Here](#)**

*If you have questions, please contact Daniel Soroka at [daniel.soroka@burgessniple.com](mailto:daniel.soroka@burgessniple.com)*



## ASHE Golf Outing

We're back and ready to play some golf! Join us for the ASHE Annual Golf Outing for a day of great prizes, food, and fun! The format will be a four-person scramble. If you do not have a foursome, we'll be happy to put you on a team. Prizes will include; closest to the pin, longest drive, longest putt and foursome with the lowest score.

Date: Friday, July 23, 2021 at 1:00pm

Location: Safari Golf Club, 4850 Powell Road, Powell, OH 43065

Registration Deadline: July 13, 2021

Registration for the even is available at the following Eventbrite link...

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-ashe-central-ohio-golf-outing-tickets-150197058445>

...or by contacting Paul Denny at [paul.denny@woolpert.com](mailto:paul.denny@woolpert.com).

### Package Options

\$25 Single Student Golfer, \$75 Single Golfer, \$20 Lunch Only Option, \$100 Hole Sponsorship

Due to COVID-19, the event will be following social distancing practices and regulations provided by the state health department. In the event that changes need to be made for the outing, we will be contacting those who have registered through email.

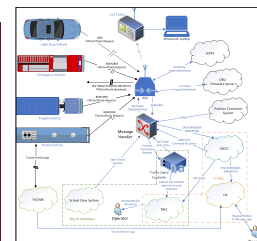


## 2020 Project-of-the-Year Competition

Earlier this year, our ASHE chapter requested entries for the 2020 Project-of-the-Year competition. This annual competition recognizes the best Central Ohio projects based on benefits to the public, complexity, innovation, unique features, aesthetics, and sustainability. One winning project is selected for each of three categories - \$5 million and under construction cost, over \$5 million construction cost, and Peer's Choice.

The entries, which were due on March 5th, are now being judged to determine the winners of the 1st two categories. While the first two categories are judged by a small and impartial panel of ASHE members (typically representing various disciplines and areas of employment), the Peer's Choice category is based on a poll of our entire chapter membership. This year, we received 2 projects in the >\$5M category and 5 projects in the <\$5M category. Like last year, we will be unable to host an in-person luncheon. So, stay-tuned. More information will be coming out soon regarding a virtual luncheon in May/June, the announcement of winners, and the polling for Peer's Choice. Very small thumbnails are intentionally provided below as a teaser for this upcoming event. Name that project!

Regardless of which project wins, this event is always a win-win for everyone as it is a great opportunity to learn about some awesome projects around town while the proceeds from the entrant application fees support our Central Ohio ASHE Scholarship Fund.





## ASHE / City of Columbus ADA Training

The City of Columbus Department of Public Service posted updated ADA Rules and Regulations that became effective as of April 1, 2018. The ASHE Central Ohio Section is hosting a training session for consultants and contractors performing ADA work in the right of way to provide an overview of the policy.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS THE SAME TRAINING THAT WAS OFFERED IN 2019 THAT IS BEING OFFERED AGAIN DUE TO HIGH DEMAND.

As previously presented, this class will cover all aspects of ADA requirements within City of Columbus Right of Way. It will cover from project scoping and design through construction inspection. This training will cover both the ADA policy content as well as the City of Columbus preferences and design strategies for common scenarios. A new interactive design section has been added with ample time for questions and answers.

This presentation will provide 2.0 professional development credit hours.

For more information and a link to register, please see below. We hope to see you there!

WHAT: City of Columbus ADA Training Sponsored by ASHE Central Ohio

WHEN: Wednesday May 19, 2021

Registration will begin at 8:00 am with the presentation lasting from 9:00 am to 11:00am.

WHERE: Virtual via Zoom

COST: Free

REGISTRATION: Mark your calendars now. Registration and Zoom link coming soon!!

## Summary of Upcoming Events

- 5/19/21 - City of Columbus ADA event
- 5/26/21 - ASHE Scholarship Event
- May / June - Project-of-the-Year Event (TBD)
- 7/23/21 - ASHE Golf Outing

Thanks to ASHE Central Ohio Highway Club members  
for their generous support

