

ASCE Richmond Branch Newsletter



Upcoming Events Calendar

January TBD: Elected Officials Meet & Greet

Late January / Early February TBD: Next Technical Meeting

March TBD: Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition

We'd love your input!

SEI-RVA invites you to complete a quick questionnaire to help us better understand the needs and interests of our local engineering community. Your feedback will shape future events and resources—thank you for making a difference!

SEI-RVA Questionnaire

President's Message



Hello ASCE Richmond Branch Members,

It's hard to believe we've already reached the end of the year! This past year brought many new events and initiatives to ASCE Richmond, and our board members are already hard at work to make sure 2026 is just as eventful. Below are some of our favorite "firsts" from 2025:

- Our Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) chapter held its first site visit and toured VCU's CoStar Center for Arts and Innovation in June. We are very excited about the continued growth of this initiative and the opportunities it brings to connect members of the structural engineering community here in Richmond. Great job to our SEI chairs, Abdullah and Ray!
- Also in June, we partnered with VWEA to host a "Welcome to Richmond" cookout, a new event for ASCE Richmond, to welcome recent graduates and new members of the civil engineering community to our growing region. Thanks to our Community Service Chair, Travis, for taking the initiative to plan this event. We had a great time connecting with friends, both new and old, at Deep Run Park.
- In July, we were excited to have the opportunity to explore the Luck Stone quarry on a guided tour. Thanks to Luck Stone and ASCE Richmond member Bob Gladstone for helping make this possible, and to board members Jay Utz and James Dishner for organizing the day-of logistics.
- ASCE Richmond also hosted our inaugural pickleball tournament with our friends at WTS Central Virginia at the end of the summer. This event was raised money for each organization's

scholarships and was a smash hit! We're working toward making this an annual event, stay tuned for more information about next year's tournament!

And now, some breaking news for 2026: ASCE Richmond is happy to announce that we will be organizing our first clay shooting competition, planned for early summer in support of annual scholarships to high school / college students. While we are excited about this new event, it does mean that after 20+ years, our annual golf tournament will be taking a hiatus.

As we close out the year, I want to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Please stay safe and enjoy some well-deserved time off with family and friends.

Kyle Hogan, P.E., M.ASCE
ASCE Richmond Branch President



Branch Awards Announcement

ASCE Richmond Branch recognized by ASCE National

Recently, the ASCE Richmond Branch's achievements were recognized at the national level by ASCE with multiple awards in the Small Branch Membership category:

- 2025 Outstanding Section and Branch Award Certificate of Commendation (2nd Place)
- 2025 Outstanding Section and Branch Website Award Certificate of Commendation (2nd Place)

With more than 150 ASCE branches across the country, we are extremely proud of these accomplishments and grateful to our board members who worked tirelessly behind the scenes

over the past year to make them possible. Thank you to all our members for your continued participation in branch events and for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

Upcoming Events

SEI Futures Fund

Applications due January 2nd, 2026

Scholarships (toward registration and travel cost) to participate in Structures Congress, April 29- May 1, 2026 in Boston, and get involved in SEI are provided by the SEI Futures Fund in collaboration with the ASCE Foundation. The intent is for recipients to connect and experience the value of membership at the conference, with the view to continue membership and involvement in SEI programs, committees, chapters, etc. Student membership to ASCE/SEI is free, as well as the first year after graduation. Adding SEI membership to your ASCE membership is free as well.

[Apply Here!](#)

Past Events

SEI's November Technical Meeting Recap

The November SEI technical meeting, presented by Mike Knott from Moffatt and Nichol, focused on ship and barge collisions with bridges, providing an overview of AASHTO criteria and lessons learned over the past 44 years. The presentation highlighted the evolution of design standards to address vessel impact risks, reviewed key case studies of past incidents, and emphasized strategies for pier protection and energy absorption. It also discussed the risk-based approach in current AASHTO LRFD specifications and explored future challenges, including increasing vessel traffic and climate-related impacts, underscoring the need for continuous improvement in bridge safety and resilience.

Job Postings

Interested in posting a job listing in our monthly newsletter and/or our website?

Our newsletter reaches hundreds of local engineering professionals, and our website is where our members register for Richmond ASCE events. Email Brett Grunert at grunert.brett@wseinc.com for more information!

Sponsorship

Interested in sponsoring a future ASCE Richmond event?

For information on how your company could sponsor future ASCE Richmond events please contact Niko Ambrose at Niko.Ambrose@vdot.virginia.gov.com.

Comments? Questions? Ideas?

Send me an email at grunert.brett@wseinc.com and I would love to discuss.

Thank you,

Brett Grunert, PE

ASCE Richmond Branch Communications Chair



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