

ASCE Richmond Branch Newsletter



Upcoming Events Calendar

August 5: Kickers Game - Membership Appreciation Outing

August 7: ASCE & WTS Pickleball Tournament

August 20: Technical Meeting

August 25: Virginia ASCE Infrastructure Report Card Release Event

President's Message



Hello Richmond ASCE Members,

All good things must come to an end, and as my term as ASCE Richmond Branch President draws to a close, I want to start by simply saying thank you. I'm grateful to this community for the opportunity to serve you this past year.

This month, I'd like to use this space to recognize the board members who are rolling off this year and to welcome those stepping into new roles.

First, a heartfelt thank you to the members completing their service to our board. Your time, energy, and commitment to the branch have not gone unnoticed, and the Richmond Branch is stronger because of your service:

Paige Lazar, Past-President - 5 years of Service
Ashley Harris, Secretary - 3 years of Service
Brett Grunert, Communications Chair - 3 years of Service
Shiva Bhusal, Education Outreach Co-Chair - 2 years of Service
Rajath Harista, SEI Co-Chair - 2 years of Service
Adam Johnson, Young Members Co-Chair, 1 year of Service

At the same time, I'm excited to welcome our incoming board members. Please join me in congratulating them and giving them a warm welcome as they take on these new responsibilities:

Charles Balina - Secretary
Sameer Karki- Young Members Co-Chair
Cason Willingham - Membership Co-Chair

It's been a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated group this year, and I'm confident the branch is in good hands going forward.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve,

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

2026 - 2027 Branch Election Results

The ASCE Richmond Branch is proud to present the results of our recent elections for the 2026 - 2027 Executive Board positions. Thank you to all who voted!

President: Jay Utz - JMT
President-Elect: Allen Parker - UES
Vice President: James Dishner - JMT
Secretary: Charles Balina - JMT
Treasurer: Brian Bucek - CJGeo
Past-President: Kyle Hogan - Timmons Group



Incoming 2026-27 ASCE Richmond President, Jay Utz (left), receives the ceremonial gavel from 2025-26 ASCE Richmond President, Kyle Hogan (right) after an induction ceremony to officially transition into the new board year.

Call for Committee Chairs!

The ASCE Richmond Branch has openings for committee chairs on the following committees. Committee chairs work alongside any co-chairs and the board to lead a specific initiative, whether ongoing (communications, event planning) or annual (scholarship, etc.):

Communications Chair
Webmaster
Education Outreach (Scholarship) Co-Chair
SEI Co-Chair

These are great opportunities for anyone looking to develop their leadership abilities, give back to their community and get to know others in the civil engineering industry.

Approximate time commitments vary by time of year and position but average around 2 - 4 hours per month, including our monthly board meeting (held over lunch). Please reach out to Jay Utz (jutz@jmt.com) or Kyle Hogan (kyle.hogan@timmons.com) for more information!

Upcoming Events

Richmond Kickers - Membership Appreciation Outing

Register by 5pm on Tuesday, 8/4 to receive your free ticket for our annual ASCE Richmond Branch Member Appreciation Event. We want to thank our members for their involvement this year, and are offering this FREE opportunity for networking, fun, and community.

ASCE members and their invited guest will receive a FREE ticket as part of the event and the registered ASCE Member (member number needed) will receive an additional appreciation gift as a thanks for coming out and being a part of ASCE Richmond Branch.

Tickets and seating information will be sent in a separate email. We look forward to seeing everyone at the match!

Event Details:

 Date: Wednesday, August 5, 2026

 Time: 7:00 PM

 Location: City Stadium – 3201 Maplewood Ave, Richmond VA 23221

Price: FREE for ASCE Members and 1 Guest

FREE Registration

ASCE & WTS Pickleball Tournament

Don't miss the second annual ASCE Richmond Branch and WTS Central Virginia Joint Pickleball Tournament! The tournament will be held at Bangers & Dinks (1516 Koger Center Blvd, Richmond, VA 23235) on August 7th from 1 pm-5 pm this year. What better way to spend a Friday than playing a bit of pickleball while supporting scholarships for future civil engineers!

Last Call - Teams must be registered by 5pm on Monday, 8/3!

For more information and to sign up for the tournament:

Register

2ND ANNUAL



TOURNAMENT

August 7, 2026
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Bangers & Dinks
*1516 Koger Center Blvd, Richmond, VA
 23235*

-  Limited to 40 Doubles Teams
-  "Crash Course for Beginners" taught at start of tournament!
-  All skill levels welcome. Divisions are: Beginner (Open Play), Social, Competitive
-  Event t-shirts provided for all participants

Proceeds benefit 2027 WTS & ASCE Scholarships

Sponsored By:


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MENARD


COLLINS ENGINEERS


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August Technical Meeting

The next Technical Meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 20th at the Libbie Mill Library from 11:45 am - 1:15 pm.

Curt Orshoski and Daniel Eggleston of Lee/Shoemaker PLLC (www.leeshoemaker.com) will present on evolving legal issues facing Engineering firms.

Registration information to be sent out in an email closer to the event date.

ASCE Virginia Section - Infrastructure Report Card Release Event

Join ASCE for the release of the 2026 Virginia Infrastructure Report Card!

This event is organized by the ASCE Virginia Section and will highlight the current state of Virginia's infrastructure across the Commonwealth. Remarks are currently expected from ASCE representatives, Richmond Mayor Danny Avula and state legislators.

Event Details:

 Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2026

 Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

 Location: Bell Tower at Virginia State Capital (outdoors)
101 N 9th St, Richmond VA 23219

Announcing our Scholarship Winners!

We're excited to announce that the **2026 ASCE Richmond Branch Scholarships** have **been successfully selected!** This year, we received numerous outstanding applications from students at universities across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Two students, **Taran Gupta** and **Sijie Liu** were selected to receive \$1,000 scholarships in recognition of their academic achievement and dedication to civil engineering. The selection process was highly competitive, and we sincerely thank the ASCE member volunteers who generously dedicated their time to review applications. Their thoughtful evaluations were crucial in selecting this year's recipients.



Taran Gupta graduated from the **University of Virginia** in May 2026 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and will be continuing there to pursue a Master of Engineering with a concentration in structural engineering. He has gained hands-on industry experience through internships at NASA, Whiting-Turner, ICF, and Mortenson, and spent three years as a teaching assistant for Introduction to Civil Engineering at UVA. His senior capstone was the ASCE Steel Bridge Competition, where he helped UVA secure 3rd place at the VA Regional Conference. He spends most of his free time pursuing music, whether that be through the Cavalier Marching Band, pep band, concert band, or wind ensemble. In the future, he hopes to work in renewable energy, creating a more sustainable and equitable environment.



Sijie Liu is a Ph.D. student in Civil Engineering at **Old Dominion University**. He holds an M.Sc. in Urban Design and International Planning from the University of Manchester and a B.Eng. in Civil Engineering from Hebei University of Technology. Before beginning his doctoral studies, he worked as an Intelligent Transportation and Simulation Scientist at the Tianjin Municipal Engineering Design & Research Institute. His work involved connected and autonomous vehicle testing, V2X infrastructure deployment, traffic simulation and planning. His current research focuses on VDOT-funded transportation projects, automated vehicle simulation, and AI-driven transportation data analytics.

Event Recaps

ASCE - VWEA 2nd Annual Cookout

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Deep Run Park for our 2nd Annual Cookout!

We were fortunate to have beautiful weather and welcomed nearly 100 professionals, friends, and family for an evening of great food, conversation, and community. A special thank you goes out to KBJW for generously sponsoring the meal, and to our volunteers who helped grill, prepare food, set up, and keep everything running smoothly throughout the event.

We appreciate everyone who came out to make the evening such a success, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!



Young Members Tour of Virginia Capitol

Thank you to all the attendees of the ASCE Young Members Capitol Tour event!

Our tour guide took us through the rich history of Virginia's Capitol building: how it was constructed, the inspirations to its style, and how it ultimately informed the design of the White House, and most state capitols in the US! We also learned a good bit about early Virginian and American history. We highly recommend this tour if you have not been.

Flying Squirrels Game Outing

Thank you to all who were able to attend the Squirrels game on the 22nd!

Unfortunately, the rain put quite a dent in our plans, but people were gathered to see the double-header game at Carmax Park well into the evening. We hope the weather will be better at next year's event!

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 Secretary, Charles Balina at CBalina@jmt.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 Membership Co-Chair, Niko Ambrose at Niko.Ambrose@vdot.virginia.gov.

Comments? Questions? Ideas?

Send me an email at kyle.hogan@timmons.com and I would love to discuss.

Thank you,
Kyle Hogan, PE, M.ASCE
ASCE Richmond Branch Interim Communications Chair



Unsubscribe

