



May 2026 Newsletter

The Arch Newsletter Team

Newsletter Editor

[Brenan Pool \(Engenuity\)](#)

Programs Chair

[Maggie Cox \(Volkert\)](#)

Section President

[Melissa Rettig \(Hg Consult\)](#)

Membership Champion

[Lyle Simonton \(Subsurface Constructors\)](#)

Upcoming Section Events

May

01 - The Arch May 2026

07 - [May Section Luncheon](#)

12 - [GI STL Quarterly Meetup](#)

14 - [YMG May Happy Hour](#)

21 - [EWRI May Webinar](#)

June

15 - Section Awards Nominations Due

Connect with #asceSTL!

2026 Section Board of Directors

President

[Melissa Rettig](#)
Hg Consult, Inc.

President-Elect

[Shari Cunningham](#)
SCI Engineering, Inc.

Secretary

[Tony Roth](#)
UES



From the President

Greeting St. Louis Section,

April has proved to be another great month with lots of ASCE St. Louis Section activities going on. This past month, I had the pleasure of judging the concrete bowling competition at the [2026 ASCE Mid-America Student Symposium](#). It was great to see all our students work hard at the conference! Thank you to our other members that also participated in judging at the symposium – I know the students appreciate our involvement. Many of our student chapters placed first or second in various competitions including **Missouri S&T** placing first in Concrete Canoe and second in Steel Bridge. **SIUC** placed first in Surveying, **Mizzou** placed second in Sustainable

Treasurer

[Nichole Witushynsky](#)

GBA

*Director of Professional &
Technical Development*

[Anne Werner](#)

Southern Illinois

University Edwardsville

Director of Administration

[Stephen Noeth](#)

Civil Design, Inc.

Past President

[Melantha Norton](#)

Nestle Purina PetCare

Solutions, and **SLU** placed 2nd in Concrete Bowling and 3D Printed Bridge. As the school year winds down, I wish all our student chapter members the best on their finals and a wonderful summer ahead!

We also gathered this month to recognize our **New Life Members**. These individuals represent the backbone of our Section, and it was a privilege to celebrate their lifelong commitment to the profession. Additionally, our **Younger Member Group** (YMG) enjoyed a fascinating behind-the-scenes tour of St. Louis Lambert International Airport—be sure to check out the photos later in this issue or on social media!

Looking ahead, we are crossing the river for our May Luncheon at **Bella Milano in Edwardsville**. I look forward to seeing you there for a presentation on "Seeking Concrete Solutions in Material Engineering."

Our Section thrives on volunteers. We are currently seeking help with [newsletter and communications](#). If you're interested in shaping our membership communication, please reach out to any Board member!

As always, I encourage you to stay connected via our social media pages and website to keep up to date on all things ASCE St. Louis Section.

Melissa Rettig

2026 St. Louis Section President

Attend the May Section Luncheon!

[#asceSTL](#) is proud to partner with ASCE STL Younger Members host [Jesse Jonas](#) at our upcoming Section Luncheon. He will present on **Seeking Concrete Solutions in Material Engineering!**

Please note the location for the May Luncheon: **Bella Milano - Edwardsville**

This presentation will highlight the intrinsic benefits of specifying concrete pavements, along with the advantages they offer for trail systems, intersection pavements, and parking lots. These applications often involve heavy pedestrian use, shared vehicle–pedestrian environments, and unique requirements for accessibility compliance.



"Seeking Concrete Solutions in Material Engineering" explores how smarter mix design, material selection, and performance-driven engineering can extend the life and reliability of concrete in real-world applications. Jesse Jonas will highlight practical approaches and emerging innovations to help the next generation of engineers make more informed, cost-effective decisions in today's evolving infrastructure

landscape.



Jesse Jonas, P.E.

Jesse is a registered professional engineer in Missouri & Illinois. He graduated BSCE from University of Missouri - Rolla (Missouri S&T) in 2001, and has worked as a construction engineering for Missouri Department of Transportation, Saint Louis County Transportation & Public Works, SCI Engineering, Horner & Shifrin, American Concrete Pavement Association - MO/KS Chapter. He now owns and operates **All Civil Engineering** where he serves the Concrete Council of St. Louis and Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association with technical engineering support and concrete education.

Register for the event!

Register by EOD on April 30th

[Maggie Cox](#), *Programs Chair*

When: Thu, May 7th @ 12:00 pm

Registration at 11:30 am, lunch served at 11:45 am, and program begins at 12:00 pm. One (1) PDH is available from this program.

Where: Bella Milano, 1063 S State Route 157, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Special thanks to our venue host

SLU School of Science and Engineering at Saint Louis University



Communications Volunteers Needed

The Communications Committee is looking for volunteers interested in **helping support the**



Section's newsletter, website, and social media outreach. These efforts help share member achievements, promote events, and highlight the work of civil engineers across our region.

If you have an interest in marketing, communications, writing, or social media, we'd love your help! Volunteers can contribute as their schedule allows and play an important role in keeping our members informed and engaged.

Learn more about this opportunity!

Call for Region 7 Award Nominations

ASCE Region 7 is seeking nominations for outstanding projects and individuals to be recognized from Sections and Branches in Region 7. Categories include:

- Professional Progress Award
- Outstanding Faculty or Practitioner Advisor Award
- Outstanding Younger Member Award
- Outstanding Student Member Award



Highlight a project or colleague deserving recognition - **nominations are due April 30th!**

Nominate for Region 7 Awards

2026 New Life Members



[#asceSTL](#) is humbled to welcome the new **Class of 2026 Life Members** from the St. Louis Section! Life Members have made a lifetime commitment to ASCE by remaining dues-paying members for their entire professional career.

- **Gary A. Toribio, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Randall Melvin Perkinson, P.E., P.Eng, F.ASCE**
- **William Peter Schonberg, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE**
- **Raymond J Kopsky, Jr, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Curtis Allen Westrich, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Steven Michael Hornung, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Eric H Lidholm, M.ASCE**
- **Kathleen Marie Trauth, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Fred S. Luetkemeier, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Raymond Lawrence Kalbac, M.ASCE**
- **Thomas Joseph Westerman, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Leonard William Lammert, P.E., RG, M.ASCE**
- **Timothy Ray Unger, P.E., M.ASCE**
- **Robert Dale Davinroy, P.E., M.ASCE**

We honor and thank you for inspiring us! Further information about Life Members' bios to be published in separate mailer, coming soon.



Mid-America Student Symposium



The [2026 ASCE Mid-America Student Symposium](#) was cohosted by **Southern Illinois University-Carbondale** and **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville** at Carbondale, bringing together more than 450 students from 17 universities across ASCE Region 7. The event provided an exciting opportunity for students to compete in a variety of technical and hands-on competitions, participate in professional development activities, and connect with peers and industry professionals.



Competitions included Concrete Canoe, Steel Bridge, Sustainable Solutions, Surveying, and Symposium Paper, along with local events such as the GeoWall Competition, FE Quiz Bowl, and first and second-year design challenges. The symposium highlighted the talent, teamwork, and innovation of future civil engineers. ASCE St. Louis Section is proud of our local student chapters - **Missouri S&T, Saint Louis University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and University of Missouri-Columbia**—for their strong participation and representation at this year's event!

Amongst our Student Chapter leaders, ASCE STL members included **Lyle S, Nichole W, Laura G, Marsia G-M, Jordan P, Brenan P, Krysta S, Abhishek K**, and others. Your dedication to the next generation of civil engineers is greatly appreciated!



Symposium Competitions

Concrete Canoe

1. **Missouri S&T**

Steel Bridge

1. Iowa State University

Surveying

1. **Southern Illinois University-Carbondale**

Local Competitions

1st and 2nd Year Design

- **Saint Louis University**

Concrete Bowling Ball

- University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Concrete Cornhole

- **Missouri S&T and Saint Louis University**

Sustainable Solutions

1. Kansas State University

3D Printing

1. Missouri State University

Symposium Paper

1. Missouri State University

GeoWall Competition

- **Southern Illinois University-Carbondale**

FE Quiz Bowl

- **Missouri S&T**



Overall

- 🥇 1st Place: **Missouri S&T**
- 🥈 2nd Place: Kansas State University
- 🥉 3rd Place: **Saint Louis University**

Call for Section Award Nominations

[#asceSTL](#) is seeking nominations for outstanding project or colleagues deserving recognition and prestigious awards, showcasing the civil engineering excellence in Greater St. Louis! Self-nominations are also accepted. These prestigious awards are presented at the Annual Awards Dinner in the fall and are a great way to showcase the civil engineering excellence in our

Section. Qualified nominations may be forwarded for consideration in the [ASCE Region 7 Awards](#).



Project of the Year Award

This award annually awarded to civil engineering projects within the St. Louis Section, recognizing owner, lead design engineer, and general contractor achievements. Eligible projects completed within 5 years prior to nomination submission, showcasing exceptional engineering skills and contributions to civil engineering progress.



Professional Recognition Award

This award recognizes the importance of professional attainment in the advancement of the science and profession of engineering and is presented annually to a Member of the St. Louis Section who has made substantial contributions to the engineering profession and the Section



Young Engineer Award

This award recognizes professional contributions of younger members to the Society and to the Section and is presented annually to a Member of the Section who is less than 35 years of age.

Outstanding Faculty/Practitioner Award

This award is made annually for any Faculty/Practitioner Advisor who supports student chapters and civil engineering students. The nominee



must be active with ASCE student members in the St. Louis Section and a member of ASCE.

ASCE STL Awards page

Please submit nominations to [Nichole Witushynsky](#), Annual Awards Chair by **June 15th**. Guidelines and forms for nominations are [available on the Section website](#).





Younger Member Group (YMG)

[#asceSTLymg](#) recently hosted a **technical tour at St. Louis Lambert International Airport**, providing attendees with a behind-the-scenes look at airport operations and infrastructure. Highlights included access to active airfield areas and ongoing construction, offering valuable insight into the coordination required to maintain safety.



YMG members also participated in the 2026 ASCE Mid-America Student Symposium, connecting with students from across the region through competitions, networking, and professional development. As part of the symposium, YMG hosted a panel focused on helping students transition into the profession and stay engaged with ASCE after graduation.



Additionally, YMG continues to foster engagement locally through social events, including a recent happy hour at **The Loading Dock**. Thank you to all attendees and sponsors for their continued support!

MAY HAPPY HOUR

FLIGHT CLUB ST. LOUIS

MAY 14 @ 6 PM

OUR SPONSOR

EDSI
ENGINEERING DESIGN SOURCE, INC.

ASCE ST. LOUIS SECTION
YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP

#ASCESTLYMG

RSVP here for this YMG Event!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS



#asceSTlymg

Upcoming YMG Events

- [May Happy Hour](#)
 - Flight Club St. Louis
 - Thu, May 14th @ 6pm
- [Joint Intern/YP Social](#)
 - Blueberry Hill (Delmar)
 - Thu, July 16th @ 4:30PM

Brandon Hamel, E.I., M.ASCE

YMG President

Oates Associates, Inc.



**ENVIRONMENTAL &
WATER RESOURCES
INSTITUTE**
St. Louis Chapter

Environmental & Water Resources Institute (EWRI) St. Louis Chapter

The St. Louis Chapter of EWRI is pleased to announce our monthly webinar on Thursday, May 21st from 12 pm-1 pm CDT. Registration is free to ASCE members. Advance registration is required by noon, May 20th.



Laboratory Modeling of Mussel-Inspired Filtration Architectures for Microplastics Collection and Tracking

Register here for this event



Ayden Wells

Ayden is a third-year **Saint Louis University (SLU)** student studying mechanical engineering and Spanish. She is an undergraduate researcher in the **Water Access, Technology, Environment and Resources (WATER) Institute** at SLU, working on Dr. Jean Potvin's project BALEEN. After handling two species of juvenile mussels during her internship at the National Mississippi River Museum in Dubuque, IA, she became fascinated by their natural filtration efficiency, sparking the biomimetic focus of her current work. Her project analyzes the anatomy, fluid dynamics, and geometry of freshwater

mussels to engineer sustainable solutions for removing microplastics from aquatic ecosystems. By iterating 3D-printed prototypes in SOLIDWORKS, she aims to optimize particle capture and efficiency. Outside of the lab, Ayden is the president of her sorority, Delta Gamma; a Team Leader for Oriflamme, SLU's First-Year Experience program; and a mentor for the School of Science and Engineering, striving to foster growth and connection across the campus.

Register for the event!

When: Thu, May 21st @ 12:00 pm

Registrants will receive webinar login info prior to the event. Contact [Keara](#)

Where: Microsoft Teams Webinar

[Trompen](#) with questions, topic ideas, or have interest in presenting.

Upcoming EWRI STL Events

- [EWRI STL Webinar Series](#)
 - Thu, May 21, 12pm-1pm

[Jiaman Xu, P.E., ENV SP, PMP, M.ASCE](#)

EWRI STL Chair

Illinois American Water



**GEO-
INSTITUTE**
St. Louis Chapter

Geo-Institute (G-I) St. Louis Chapter

The St. Louis Chapter of Geo-Institute is excited to announce our upcoming **Quarterly Technical Meetup** on May 12th at Schlafly Bottleworks! Also, see below for our upcoming scholarships with various requirements and deadlines.



Q2'26 Quarterly Technical Meetup

Please join us for an hour of expert-led technical insight and informal open-floor discussion at our upcoming Quarterly Technical Meetup!

The core of the discussion will focus on the analysis of existing landslides and the design of stabilization measures, specifically drilled shafts. The discussion will cover field and lab data acquisition, design parameter development, stability model considerations, and analysis of drilled shafts. By integrating field observations from drilled shaft construction, the discussion will also highlight critical practical considerations for the design and construction phase.



Dale Miller, P.E.

Dale is a Senior Geotechnical Engineer & Technical Lead at **Shannon & Wilson, Inc.** He has dedicated the last 11 years to advancing geotechnical practice. As the Technical Lead and Supervisor for the St. Louis geotechnical laboratory, he brings a rigorous, data-driven approach to every project. He earned his B.S. Geological Engineering from Missouri S&T in 2012 and MSCE (Geological) from Virginia Tech in 2014. Dale specializes in the development of geotechnical investigations for residential, commercial, industrial, and infrastructure sectors. His deep technical toolkit includes slope stability analysis, deep foundation design, settlement analysis,

and seepage modeling. Dale's extensive field experience with drilled shaft construction observation provides a unique perspective, ensuring that stabilization designs are not only theoretically sound but practically buildable.

Register for the event!

Cost: \$10 Registration

PDH: 1.0 Hour

When: Tue, May 12th @ 5:30 pm

Where: Schlafly Bottleworks, 7260 Southwest Ave,
St. Louis, MO 63143

Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter - Officer Election

Voting is now open to vote for [Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter](#) officers for the upcoming term. ASCE St. Louis GI members may vote for these officer positions **until May 12th**. Each position will have candidates listed along with a photo and short description. After reading through all candidate descriptions, please vote for one candidate per position.

G-I Members Voting

Geo-Institute St. Louis Scholarship Opportunities

G-I STL is calling applications for a few scholarships, including:

- **Alizadeh/Geotechnology Scholarship**
 - Must have graduated or will receive before July 1, 2026 a B.S. degree and have been accepted to an ABET accredited Midwestern university for graduate studies in Civil or Geological Engineering
 - One or more scholarships will be awarded, with the total value being \$20,000
 - Scholarship submittal deadline is May 8, 2026
- **GeoConfluence Research Scholarship**
 - Must be pursuing a master's (thesis option) or PHD specializing in geotechnical or geoenvironmental engineering at a university within the ASCE St. Louis Section
 - A total up to \$3,000 will be awarded
 - Scholarship submittal deadline is June 30, 2026
- **Shamsher Prakash Geotechnical Scholarship**
 - Must be pursuing a B.S. in Geotechnical or Geological Engineering in Fall of 2026
 - One scholarship will be awarded, with a total value being \$1,500
 - Scholarship submittal deadline is June 30, 2026

Apply today for these G-I STL scholarships!



GEO-
INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter



STRUCTURAL
ENGINEERING
INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter

Structural and Geo-Confluence *CALL FOR ABSTRACTS!*

SAVE THE DATE

October 28, 2026

River City Casino, St. Louis, Missouri

The St. Louis Chapters of the Geo-Institute (GI) and Structural Engineers Institute (SEI) are now accepting abstracts for the 15th Annual Structural and Geo-Confluence. The conference will be a multi-track, full-day event featuring technical topics and case histories presented by local and national experts. The joint morning session will focus on topics concerning the confluence of geotechnical and structural engineering. There will be two tracks in the afternoon: one track on geotechnical engineering and geo-environmental topics, and one track on structural engineering topics. The conference is open to all engineering and construction professionals and students. Last year's conference was attended by nearly 200 people from throughout Illinois and Missouri.

The planning committee is seeking speakers to provide a 35- to 50-minute presentation focused on structural engineering, geotechnical engineering, or geo-environmental topics with specific preference given to topics that overlap these focus areas. All persons are encouraged to **submit an abstract to Patrick Kinsella at pat.kinsella@shanwil.com by July 24, 2026**. Abstracts should be limited to 250 words. Once the planning committee has reviewed the abstracts, notification will be provided to the selected presenters by mid-August 2026. The submitted abstracts and presentation slides will be assembled and included in the conference publication.

Upcoming G-I Events

- **Q2'26 Quarterly Technical Meetup**
 - Tue, May 12th @ 5pm
 - Schlafly Bottleworks

Travis Kassebaum, P.E.,
M.ASCE

G-I STL Chair
Terracon





American Society of Civil Engineers Presents

Ice Cream Social

Come join us for
FREE TED DREWES!!!

All Majors Welcome

Friday, May 1st

McDonnell Douglas Hall Patio

5-7PM





Southwest Missouri

IMPACT SUMMIT

WHERE THE FUTURE IS BUILT

Presented by



SPRINGFIELD, MO

MAY 1st
2026

Supported by



The **IMPACT SUMMIT** is a one-day conference bringing together civic leaders, development professionals, business owners, and community stakeholders to shape a thriving, sustainable future for our region. We are collaborating with the **Route 66 Centennial Celebration**, and special sessions will explore the legacy and future of Route 66—and what it teaches us about transportation, planning, economic development, placemaking, and the built environment.

[Register for Impact Summit on May 1st](#)

ASCE | MEMBER ADVANTAGES

JOBS CORNER

[VIEW PARTNER JOB POSTINGS](#)

[UMSL/WashU Engineering Instructors](#)

UMSL/WashU - St. Louis, MO

UMSL Joint Engineering
University of Missouri–St. Louis
with Washington University in St. Louis

SENIOR ENGINEERING PROJECT MANAGER

ENGINEERING PROJECT MANAGER

American Water Works Company, Inc. - Varies



SENIOR ENGINEER - CODES, STANDARDS & PRODUCT TESTING

MiTek Inc. - Earth City, MO

MiTek®

Originally sent May 2026

ASCE St. Louis Section

St. Louis, MO

asceSTL.org

[Unsubscribe](#)

CONNECT WITH
#asceSTL



 **higher logic**