



**Hear from Civil leaders on Bissell Point
and Lemay Wastewater Facility upgrades**
Meet us at Maggiano's Little Italy for Awards Dinner

ASCE
ST. LOUIS SECTION

THE ARCH
SEPTEMBER 2025

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September 2025 Newsletter

The Arch Newsletter Team

Upcoming Section Events

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

The Arch September 2025 cover

[Missouri Independent](#)

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September

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02 - Labor Day

12 - [EWRI Chapter Meeting](#)

14 - [Presidents & Governors Forum](#)

15 - Mid-Month Update

16 - ASCE President-Elect SLU Visit

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October

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Join us for the 2025 Annual Awards Dinner!



ST. LOUIS SECTION

PRESENTS

2025 AWARDS DINNER

FRIDAY

19
SEPT

AT 6:30 PM

Maggiano's Little Italy



RSVP BY SEPT 10TH

shorturl.at/srXRL



Register for the 2025 Annual Awards Dinner!

2025 Section Board of Directors

President

[Melantha Norton](#)

Nestle Purina PetCare

President-Elect

[Melissa Rettig](#)

Hg Consult, Inc.

Secretary

[Shari Cunningham](#)

SCI Engineering, Inc.



From the President

Greetings St. Louis Section,

And we are back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. While the Section was on “summer break,” our routine activities slowed down, but several exciting events kept rolling. We’re officially back with a bang this September! The calendar is

packed, and I look forward to engaging with many of you throughout the month.

During the break, **Jacob Mette**, our YMG Chair, and **Nichole Witushynsky**, Section Board member, volunteered at the [Summer Science Academy](#) in partnership with COMTO for a pre-college

Treasurer[Tony Roth](#)

UES

**Director of Professional
& Technical
Development**[Nichole Witushynsky](#)

GBA

Director of**Administration**[Ronaldo Luna](#)

Saint Louis University

Past President[Chris Toenjes](#)

Roeslein & Associates

outreach event. Additionally, Board members Shari Cunningham and I represented the Section as Gold Sponsors at the [National Society of Black Engineers](#) (NSBE) Scholarship Reception. I also attended the **ASCE Region 7 Assembly** in Lenexa, KS as the Section delegate, alongside regional R7 Governors, ASCE President-Elect **Dr. Marsha Anderson Bomar**, ASCE Past-President **Marsia Geldert-Murphey** and delegates from all eight (8) states within Region 7. As you can see, our members have remained active during the break, engaging in volunteer outreach and showcasing the great work of our Section.

As our break officially concludes this month, the St. Louis Section and the **ASCE SLU Student Chapter** will welcome **Dr. Marsha Anderson Bomar**, the 2025 President-Elect of ASCE, on **September 16th to SLU**. After her presentation, there will be an ice cream social – a great chance to hear from national leadership and connect with both student and professional members. **ASCE S&T Student Chapter** will also host her down in Rolla on the **following night on the 17th**. More details are available below in this newsletter as well as being posted on the website and socials.

As one of our cornerstone offerings, monthly technical **luncheons resume on September 18th**, featuring guest speakers from the **Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Kokosing, Black & Veatch, and Crawford, Murphy & Tilly**. This joint luncheon with the **Engineers Club of St. Louis** will cover the \$900 million projects aimed at improving air quality in the St. Louis region using innovative technology at the Bissell Point and Lemay Wastewater Treatment Facilities. A special thank you to our **2025 luncheon sponsors: CDI, CBB, UES, Subsurface Constructors, Hg Consult, Inc., Hart Engineering, Reitz & Jens, and Saint Louis University**. Your support helped us keep these luncheons affordable for members and maintain discounted rates for students and life members.

Our official "new year" will kick off at our **Annual Dinner on September 19th at Maggiano's Little Italy**. During the event, we will honor our Section award winners, install 2026 Board officers, and present student scholarships. A special **thanks to our Life Members** for their generous support of our scholarship fund, contributing nearly \$4,000 this year.

I am honored to **pass the gavel to Melissa Rettig** as she is installed as the **2026 Board President**. We will also welcome two (2) new Board members, **Anne Werner** and **Stephen Noeth**. After nine (9) loooooong years of dedicated service on the Section Board, **Chris Toenjes** will conclude his Board term. **Thank you, Chris**, for your commitment to the ASCE St. Louis Section.

Our **Younger Member Group (YMG)** is also back in action this month with some fun events. Under the new leadership of YMG President **Brandon Hamel**, they have organized a **tailgate at Mizzou** in collaboration with the **Kansas City YMG**, as well as their signature monthly happy hour for this month. This group has a strong history of engagement and continues to make the STL YMG **one of the best in the region**.

As I conclude my final President's Message, I reflect on how I began the year with the word **"FORWARD"** as my guiding vision. Over the past year, many have contributed to moving the St. Louis Section forward through fresh event ideas, new and revitalized partnerships, exciting pre-college outreach, and engaging Student Chapter visits. Our 2023-2028 Strategic Plan has been instrumental in guiding our planning efforts and initiatives. **I invite you to review the Year 2 update linked [HERE](#).** Compiling this update allowed me to reflect on the efforts that go into propelling our Section forward.

It has been an honor to serve as Section President for an organization that has helped shape my professional journey since moving to St. Louis. I am proud of our members and how we have represented the Section. **[It's a great time to be a member of the ASCE St. Louis Section.](#)**

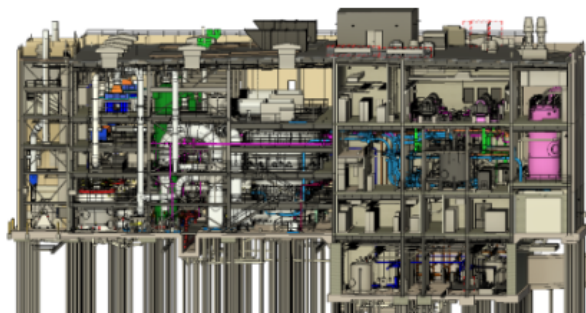
Signing off as President and looking forward to another wonderful year! Peace,

Melantha Norton

2025 St. Louis Section President

Learn about Fluidized Bed Incinerators (FIB) at the September Luncheon

#asceSTL is excited to cohost our September Luncheon with [Engineers Club of St. Louis](#). We'll hear from project members from [Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District](#), [Kokosing](#), [Black & Veatch](#), and [Crawford, Murphy & Tilly \(CMT\)](#), on updating the biosolids facilities at the **Bissell Point and Lemay Wastewater Treatment Facilities**.



MSDPC is investing \$900 million to improve air quality in the St. Louis region by replacing century-old technology with innovative, environmentally friendly systems. Although the existing facilities continue to meet or exceed all air quality standards, the new systems will significantly improve air quality, reducing emissions by more than 70 percent. Construction of the new facilities are ongoing. Completion is anticipated in Spring 2029.

Register for the event!

Register by September 12th

[Stephen Noeth](#), Programs Chair
[Maggie Cox](#), Programs Assistant

When: Thu, September 18th @ 12:00 pm

Where: [Il Monastero Banquet Center](#), Saint Louis University

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.

Call for Section volunteers



We're on the lookout for passionate members to step into leadership roles on our committees. Volunteering means developing leadership skills, building your network, and making a real impact in our Section. Don't just be a member—be the difference! Connect with a [Board member or Section volunteer](#) to get started

- Government Advocacy
- Membership Champion
- Pre-College (K-12) Outreach
- Student Involvement Outreach
- Sustainability
- Specialty Institutes & Groups
- Annual Dinner & Awards
- Communications & Website
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Fundraising
- History & Heritage
- Life Members
- Programs
- Scholarships

[View Section Contacts & Committees](#)

ASCE Region 7 Annual Assembly held in Kansas

Region 7 Governors and Delegates gathered in Lenexa, KS, and Kansas City, MO, for the **2025 Region 7 Annual Assembly**! The two-day event brought together leaders, students, and younger members from across the Midwest for meaningful discussions, networking, and professional development opportunities. **Melantha Norton**, Section President, was proud to have been part of this successful assembly as look forward to building on the momentum as we continue to strengthen the civil engineering community in Region 7!



ASCE President-Elect Bomar to visit S&T and SLU in September



ASCE St. Louis Section, ASCE S&T Student Chapter, and ASCE SLU Student Chapter welcome ASCE President-Elect [Marsha Anderson Bomar](#), Ph.D., AICP, ENV SP, H.ITE, F.ASCE to Greater St. Louis in September for student chapter visits! Dr. Bomar will present **So Many Ways to Engage...Which Paths Do You Choose?**

Marsha will take a walk through the many aspects of ASCE engagement, talk about ASCE as your lifeline and where she will focus during her presidential year. All Section leaders, Younger Members, Student Chapter leaders, and faculty are welcome to join!

MARSHA ANDERSON- BOMAR

F. ASCE, F. ITE, AICP, ENV SP/Trainer

So Many Ways to Engage... Which Paths Do You Choose?

4 P.M. | Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025
Tegeler Hall Auditorium
Saint Louis University

7 P.M. | Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025
125 Butler-Carlton Hall
Missouri S&T



CHANGING THE WORLD



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Younger Member Group (YMG)



Save the Date for joint Mizzou Tailgater

Join us for a tailgate before the Mizzou football game on
Saturday, September 20th. Kickoff TBD, but more details will
be shared soon. Don't miss out on the fun!



YMG Sponsorships available

We're currently looking for sponsors to support the STL Younger Member Group (YMG) and our upcoming events. Sponsorship is a great opportunity for companies to gain visibility within the civil engineering community while helping us provide networking, outreach, and professional development for young professionals. If you're not the right person to discuss sponsorship, we'd appreciate if you could **pass this message along** to the appropriate person at your organization. We'd love the chance to connect!

2026 YMG Sponsorship Letter

Upcoming YMG Events

- STL/KC Mizzou Tailgater w/ Mizzou Student Chapter
 - Sat, Sept 20th, Date TBD
- September Happy Hour
 - Details TBD

YMG President

Brandon Hamel, E.I., M.ASCE
Oates Associates

YMG Past President

Jacob Mette, P.E., M.ASCE
Lochmueller Group



CAREER BOOSTER WEBINAR SERIES

Building the future: *Leveraging AI for young civil engineers*

REGISTER NOW

**Thursday, September 18, 2025
at 2:00 PM Eastern**



Eva Lerner-Lam
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
Palisades Consulting Group



Alan Mosca
CTO & CO-FOUNDER
nPlan



Matthew Mills
FOUNDER & PRIN. CONSULTANT
IT-Alliance

ASCE YOUNGER MEMBERS

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



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

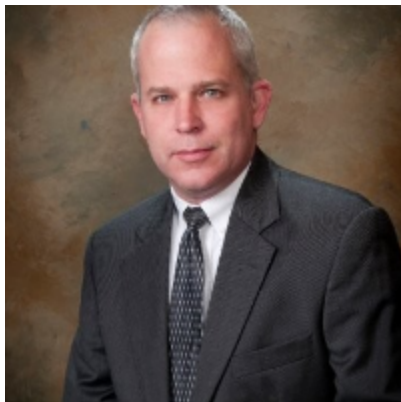
Monthly Speaker Series Event

The EWRI St. Louis Chapter is pleased to announce our **September 2025 monthly webinar**. This presentation will be broadcast live with registration being free for ASCE members!

TOPIC: How do We Know We are More Sustainable? Methods and Tools for Evaluating the Sustainability of Engineering Projects



Dr. Jianpeng Zhou is Professor of Environmental Engineering in the Civil Engineering Department at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, IL. He has taught water and wastewater, environmental and sustainable engineering, engineering hydrology and fluid mechanics; directed research in wastewater treatment and biosolids management, green infrastructures for stormwater management, and life cycle assessment. His work had been funded by federal, state, regional, local government agencies, and industries. Dr. Zhou was a Fulbright US Scholar to Brazil in 2017 and is a EWRI Fellow. Dr. Zhou received his Ph.D. and M.A.Sc. degrees from the University of British Columbia, Canada, M.Eng. and B.Eng. degrees from Tsinghua University, China, all in Environmental Engineering



Mr. Michael Buechter is a Program Manager at the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) where he manages a team responsible for the preparation of construction documents for small to mid-sized projects, administration of several consulting engineering contracts, and administration of MSD's Small Contractor Program. Mr. Buechter served in many leadership roles with a range of professional organizations, including as a former President of ASCE St. Louis Section, a former Chair of ASCE's EWRI St. Louis Chapter, and a former member of the EWRI's (national) Governing Board. Mr. Buechter is a EWRI Fellow, earned his M.S. in Civil Engineering's Water Resources from Oklahoma State University, and B.S. in Civil Engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Register for the event!

Register by September 17th

[Keara Trompen](#), Webinar Chair

When: Thu, September 25th @ 12:00 pm CDT

Where: Zoom Webinar - Registrants will receive detailed login and dial-in information prior to the event.

General Chapter Meeting

We'll be holding a general chapter meeting at 11:30am to 1:00pm on September 12th at **Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District**, Conference Room 109. Attendees should come in through the revolving door (front of building) and tell security they are here for the EWRI meeting. Lunch will be provided for anyone attending in perso! Please [email EWRI STL](#) to RSVP for in-person meeting or request a link for virtual meeting and provide dietary restrictions by the end of Wednesday, 9/10!



Upcoming YMG Events

- General Chapter Meeting
 - Fri, Sept 12th, 11:30am
 - [MSD, Conference Room 109](#)
- Monthly Speaker Series Event
 - Thu, Sept 25th, 12:00pm
 - [Online Webinar](#)

EWRI Chair

Jiaman Xu, P.E., ENV SP, PMP,
M.ASCE

Illinois American Water



Geo-Institute (GI) St. Louis Chapter



GEO-
INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter



STRUCTURAL
ENGINEERING
INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter

Structural and Geo-Confluence *CALL FOR ABSTRACTS!*

SAVE THE DATE November 5, 2025

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 14th 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, 2025**. 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 2025. The submitted abstracts and presentation slides will be assembled and included in the conference publication.

Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) St. Louis Chapter

Congrats to our own **Chad Schrand, PE, SE** for being elected President-Elect for [Structural Engineering Institute of ASCE](#)! We know that you'll lead the Institute well and represent **#asceSTL** strategically 🏠

WELCOME THE 2025 ELECTED SEI BOARD MEMBERS



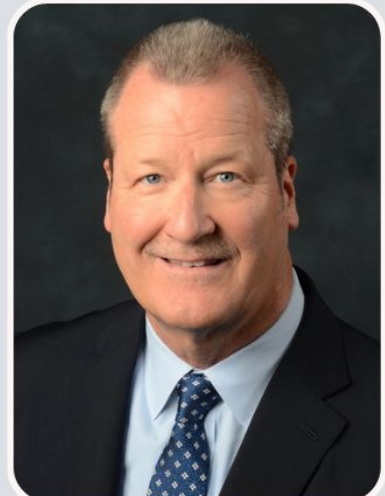
Chad Schrand
P.E., F.SEI, M.
ASCE SEI

President-Elect



Ishwarya Srikanth
Ph.D., P.E.,
M.ASCE

**Young
Professional
Governor**

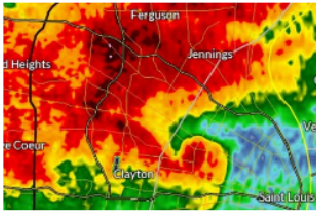


John Duntemann
P.E., F.SEI, M.
ASCE SEI

**At-Large
Governor**



ASCE St. Louis Section SAVE Coalition Members Respond to St. Louis EF-3 Tornado Largest-Ever SAVE Deployment But More Volunteers Needed



ST. LOUIS, MO – On the afternoon of May 16th, the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency's Structural Assessment and Visual Evaluation (SAVE) Coalition, an ASCE St. Louis Section sponsored group of over 1,000 volunteer architects, engineers and building officials that are trained to quickly evaluate damaged buildings after a disaster, was holding a training class near I-64 and Big Bend. Less than two miles away an EF-3 tornado was cutting a path across the north side of St. Louis, from the city limits near Forest Park northeasterly to Interstate 70.

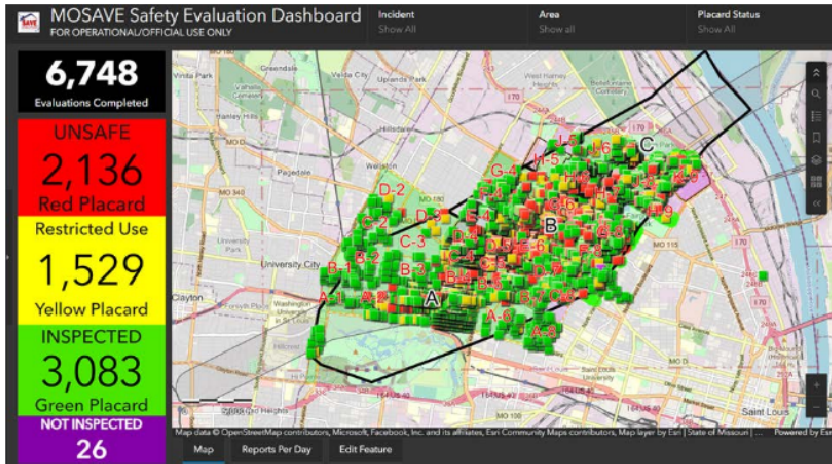
The tornado impacted thousands of buildings, prompting the City of St. Louis to ask the SAVE Coalition for the largest deployment in the group's history. For 8 days, spread over two separate 4-day deployments, over 100 SAVE volunteers worked with City Building Division staff to perform rapid structural safety evaluations on over 6,700 buildings. SAVE placed a red (unsafe), yellow (restricted use) or green (safe) placard on the evaluated buildings. The city requested more SAVE volunteers than were able to deploy. More SAVE volunteers and support for SAVE deployments is needed.

Each deployment day started with refresher training, swearing in as deputy building officials, and geographic area assignments for the 2-person teams. Results were reported in real time using an ESRI Survey123 smart phone app. Support for SAVE from the community across the damage area was very good.

SAVE's volunteer leaders, many having participated with St. Louis Building Division staff in the 2024 National Guard exercise at Busch Stadium, planned the day's activities, monitored the results using the real-time dashboard shown below, supported the field teams, and responded to city staff questions.

SAVE needs your help - the SAVE Coalition provides a free 7 PDH class to engineers interested in joining. SAVE is especially interested in recruiting newly licensed civil, structural, and geotechnical engineers with building design and/or construction experience. SAVE is a low time commitment organization and volunteers are never under any obligation to deploy. The next SAVE training class in St. Louis will be November 7, 2025. Learn more at: [Missouri SAVE Coalition | SEMA \(mo.gov\)](https://www.missouri-savecoalition.org/)

By: Benjamin Ross, P.E., M. ASCE. Ross has been a member of SAVE for 29 years and serves as one of ASCE St. Louis Section's representatives on the SAVE Board of Directors. He can be reached at brross@ess-inc.com



CHANGING THE WORLD

CIVIL, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING **Networking & Social Event**

Join us for an evening of networking on Monday night before the Fall Career Fair. This is a great opportunity for Miner alumni/employers and students to meet and talk outside fair hours in a more relaxed setting.

6-8 p.m. | Monday, Sept. 22 | Butler-Carlton Atrium



Register by **Monday, Sept. 15**: <https://forms.gle/C1q8Ms3FZyDBGtwV9>
Have questions? Email **Madison Keim** (m.keim@mst.edu)



MISSOURI S&T

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS
GATEWAY PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

Trivia Night

SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 24

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
111 S GEYER ROAD
KIRKWOOD MO, 63122

FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES!

WEBSITE: ewbstl.weebly.com

INSTAGRAM: @EWB_STL

LINKEDIN: www.linkedin.com/company/engineers-without-borders-gateway-professional-chapter

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VIEW ALL PARTNER JOB POSTINGS

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