

It's the time of year where the beautiful Fall season in Pittsburgh begins to transition to winter! I hope you are out there enjoying the weather and scenery!

It's also the time of year to renew ASCE memberships!

I want to draw your attention to some National ASCE membership benefits which can eventually pay for the membership cost and even potentially save you a lot of money.

- Free Continuing Education: [10 free PDHs](#) from on-demand webinars. This benefit alone has a value of \$1,590 and can offset your entire membership dues.
- Student Loans: Refinance or consolidate at [SoFi](#) with exclusive ASCE discount of 0.5%. My family saved about \$200 a month for just one student.
- Life Insurance: Highly competitive group rates from New York Life with portable (doesn't end when you change jobs) coverage. My family premium was less than the same coverage from employers and we still have the same insurance since 2005 despite changing job three times.
- Others: Discounted group rates for health, dental, auto, home, renter, professional liability, and umbrella protection insurance and discounts on travel, rental cars, entertainment, sporting events, movies, theme parks, shipping, laptops, and even appliances.

More Information about membership benefits: https://www.asce.org/member_advantages/

When you renew, remember to also renew your **section membership**. These dues support so many of the activities we plan in our region. Section event registration discounts are available to members who pay the Section Dues. If you attend even 2 or 3 events a year, these discounts will cover the cost of Section Dues!

One of the most important challenges our Section is focusing on is engaging our members so we can reverse a declining membership trend and continue to provide and improve the benefits of joining ASCE-Pittsburgh. In fact, this issue is so important that our Executive Committee has included it as the #1 goal in our Strategic Plan for the next 3 years.

ASCE-PITTSBURGH STRATEGIC PLAN

SMART GOALS

- SMART is an acronym for **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**elevant, **T**imed
- Our 2019-2022 SMART Goals
 1. **Reverse the declining membership**
 2. Increase government engineer membership and participation
 3. Energize students, advisors, and YMF

Our Membership Committee is chaired by our new Board member Bill Trimbath, P.E. He will be studying the causes of declining membership and developing a plan of action. Bill's strategic planning experience as the Manager of a local civil engineering company office of several hundred people and as the mayor of a local municipality is what we need to stabilize our membership. If you have ideas or are interested in joining this effort, please contact me or reach out to Bill at btrimbath@collectiveefforts.com.

Please renew your membership on time, preferably in November. Remember that there is a difference between National and Section membership. You also have the option of adding a "Voluntary Contribution" when renewing. These funds support the annual Student Awards Foundation awards, given to local students at our E-week Banquet. If you are able to contribute, it is much appreciated.

It will be awesome if you can remind a friend to renew or join ASCE too!

Best regards,

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