

February 2019

January Dinner Meeting Highlights

ASHE Altoona members gathered at Park Hills Country Club on January 16, 2019, for an excellent presentation on roundabout design. Andy Duerr, PE of Wallace Montgomery presented on current topics in roundabout planning and design, including the geometry of safety and considerations for oversized/overweight vehicles.



Holiday Dinner Highlights

On December 11, 2018, ASHE Altoona members gathered at the US Hotel in Holidaysburg for our annual holiday gathering. Everyone enjoyed happy hour, dinner, and transportation trivia night!

We would like to thank all Builders Club members and anyone else that contributed items for the gift basket raffle. Your generosity raised over \$1,100 for the Mountain Lion Backpack Program and ASHE Altoona matched that amount with an additional \$700. A check totaling \$1800 was sent to the Mountain Lion Backpack Program, which is enough to supply weekend meals for approximately 18 children in the Altoona Area School District this year!



Upcoming Events

FEB 15 PennDOT and **FRIENDS**
Annual Ski Trip

Seven Springs Mountain Resort
777 Water Wheel Drive,
Champion, PA

Ski Hours: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tubing: 1-3 p.m. or 3-5 p.m.

RSVP by February 13th
Kristen Swan
(814) 317-1669
kswan@pa.gov

Everyone Welcome!!!



Free Lift Ticket Giveaway!!

Lift Tickets.....	\$44
Skis/boots rental*.....	\$31
Snowboard/boots rental*....	\$31
Tubing.....	\$25
Lessons Available.....	\$22

* release form required - complete online or at rental shop



FEB 20 ASHE Mid-Allegheny and Altoona Sections Joint Meeting

University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ)
Living-Learning Center - Heritage Hall
450 Schoolhouse Road,
Johnstown, PA 15904

5:00 p.m. Social
6:00 p.m. Dinner
6:30 p.m. Presentations

\$30 ASHE Member or Guest *(includes open bar)*
\$10 Student*

**Must be 21 to consume alcoholic beverages / student rate does not include alcoholic beverages*

RSVP by February 8th
Dave Hoglund
dhoglund@rettew.com
(indicate if registering as a student)

The Mid-Allegheny and Altoona Sections reserve the right to invoice for all reservations made and not honored.

Presentations:

ASHE National Activity Update

Mr. Richard Cochrane, PE, ASHE National President

US 33 Smart Mobility Corridor

Mr. Jim Katsafanas, PE, PTOE
Project Manager - Michael Baker International, Inc.



The 33 Smart Mobility Corridor is blazing a new trail on the road to becoming a connected corridor. The project is part of a \$6 million USDOT Advanced Transportation Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) grant to implement connected vehicle technologies along a 35-mile section of US 33 between the City of Dublin and City of Marysville near Columbus, Ohio. The US 33 corridor will offer a unique opportunity to deploy and test smart vehicle technology in various settings, including; urban, suburban, and rural and roadway types, including; local, arterial, and collector streets and multi-lane divided highway ramps. The project includes the installation of 62 dedicated short-range communication (DSRC) devices along US 33 with another 32 installed at traffic signals within the Cities of Marysville and Dublin, equipping between 600 and 1,200 vehicles with connected vehicle technology, developing V2I applications, and developing a smart network to manage the data flows and system.

UPJ-ASCE Student Chapter 2019 Events and Teams

Various UPJ Students

Meal:

*Hors d'oeuvres: Tomato Bruschetta, Veggies & Cheese and Crackers
Dinner Buffet: Market Garden Salad, Grilled Chicken Breast, Beef Tips Bourguignon, Herb Red Potatoes, Green Beans and Traditional Rolls
Desserts: Coffee and NY Style Cheesecake*



A Buried Blacksmith Shop

Archaeological Investigations for a Box Culvert Along SR 2005 in Blair County, PennDOT Engineering District 9-0

By: Justin McKeel, M.A., R.P.A. and Ryan Rowles, M.A., R.P.A.
The Markosky Engineering Group, Inc.

There was once a time when blacksmith shops and wagon shops were a linchpin of every community. In the 18th and 19th centuries, blacksmiths and wagon-makers were so essential that they were often the ones to start new towns. They would set up shop at a crossroads and the demand for their services would bring people and other businesses to them. In 1823, in rural Blair County, a blacksmith and wagon-maker named John W. Miller did just that. His new town, Millerstown, was short-lived and even deemed "an unimportant place" by the author of the 1883 History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties, Pennsylvania. Yet, almost 200 years later, John W. Miller's blacksmith shop has proven to be a very important place.

The remains of Miller's blacksmith shop were discovered by The Markosky Engineering Group, Inc. during the Phase I archaeological survey for a PennDOT Engineering District 9-0 bridge replacement project. PennDOT proposes to replace the existing bridge carrying State Route (SR) 2005 over Middletown Run in North Woodbury Township, Blair County with a concrete box culvert. The Phase I archaeological survey and subsequent Phase II archaeological eligibility evaluation of the blacksmith shop site was completed as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Historic background research conducted prior to the archaeological fieldwork indicated that John Miller's blacksmith shop was likely located within the project's archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE). The District Archaeologist noted the illustration of a blacksmith shop on an 1859 map and recognized the potential for the site to be intact during the initial scoping field view for the project. The blacksmith shop does not show up on any later maps or historic aerial photographs. As a result, it was unclear if anything remained of the blacksmith shop until the Phase I archaeological survey encountered an intact stone wall of the blacksmith shop beneath about 16 inches of fill.

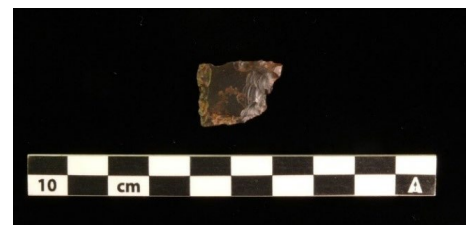
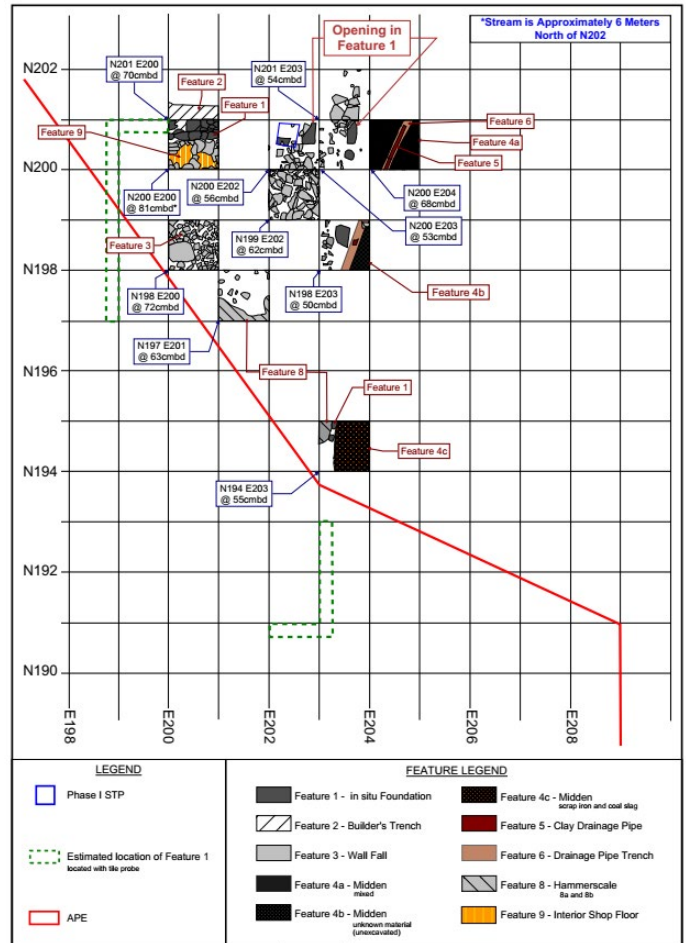


From left to right: a) toppled stone wall remnants, b) the intact stone wall of the blacksmith shop, c) the builder's trench for the stone wall, and d) intact subsoil

Numerous features of the blacksmith shop were identified during the archaeological excavations. The intact limestone walls of the shop were uncovered, along with two likely window locations. The locations of these windows are important, because prior to the advent of electricity, blacksmiths would rely on the light from these windows to illuminate their work benches. There was also a narrow opening in the wall of the blacksmith shop facing Middletown Run. This is likely an opening for a waterwheel drive shaft that would have powered the bellows or a trip hammer.

Nearly 5,000 artifacts were also recovered from the excavations of the blacksmith shop. Many of these artifacts are combustion-related – either coal, slag, or cinders associated with heating the blacksmith's forge. The distribution of these combustion-related materials provided some clues to where the blacksmith's forge and anvil may have once been positioned within the blacksmith shop. Some of the blacksmith's tools were also recovered, including files and tool handle fragments.

Among the artifacts were also an English gunflint and a frizzen from a flintlock rifle, both of which had been discarded outside the blacksmith shop. They reflect a frequent skill 19th century blacksmiths would need to utilize, basic gunsmithing. It is possible that both of these artifacts were discarded when the blacksmith at the site converted a flintlock rifle to a percussion caplock rifle. Historic accounts certainly attest that this was a common occurrence in the mid-to-late 19th century as people abandoned their flintlocks in favor of the more reliable caplock technology.



English Gunflint



Frizzen, a component of a flintlock rifle that generates a spark when struck by the gunflint

From Markosky's investigations, it was determined that the site has the potential to yield significant information about the changing 19th century economy of a rural agricultural community and the nearby industrial town economies. The shop was built in the early 1800s as the local economy was just beginning to boom, following the success of iron producers throughout the Juniata Iron Region. It also seems that the shop was demolished roughly around the time of the American Civil War or perhaps as the second Industrial Revolution began to sweep the country. In either case, the blacksmith(s) working within this shop would have seen the need for their skills rise and fall through the years, with ever changing demands.

Compared to other historic industries, relatively little archaeological research and recordation has been conducted on blacksmith shops in Pennsylvania or the United States as a whole. Despite how prevalent blacksmiths were in 19th century America, there is a dearth of archaeological information on these resources, both chronologically and as a site type. This specific blacksmith shop is an exemplary 19th century blacksmith shop both in regard to its degree of preservation and potential for information. The shop was in use during an incredibly prolific time for blacksmiths, and by all indications a variety of blacksmithing activities was conducted on site, reflecting the changing demands of the local community. The abandonment of the blacksmith shop before the 20th century makes it ever more valuable as an encapsulation of 19th century life and blacksmithing.

For all of these reasons, the site was determined to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Markosky provided specific site location data to the District, and as a result, PennDOT Engineering District 9-0 was able to revise the scope of the project and the APE to avoid impacts to the site. A finding of No Adverse Effect was reached for the project.



MARKOSKY
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Charleston, WV

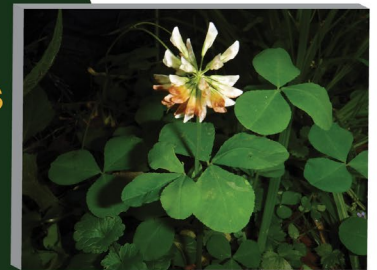
724.238.4138
www.markosky.com

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COLLABORATIVE ENGINEERING



From PennDOT District 9-0

District 9 recently completed a permanent memorial in front of the District office to acknowledge and honor all District employees who have lost their lives while performing their duties. The memorial is a large rock with a bronze plaque attached listing the names of those who have been lost. The rock was pulled from the field of Bob Gensimore’s family farm, and offered as a donation in remembrance of their son. The money for the plaque and solar LED lights to shine on the plaque in the evening was donated by many others. Any money in addition to what was needed to pay for the memorial was given to the widow of Bryan “Chipper” Chamberlain, the most recent fallen comrade this past summer.



Some safety tips to remember when you encounter a work zone or other roadside obstacles for your safety and the safety of highway workers:

- Drive the posted work zone speed limit.
- Stay alert and pay close attention to signs and flaggers.
- Turn on your headlights if signs instruct you to do so.
- Maintain a safe distance around vehicles. Don't tailgate.
- Use four-way flashers when stopped or traveling slowly.
- Avoid distractions and give your full attention to the road.
- Always buckle up.
- Expect the unexpected.
- Be patient.

Willis L. Ling
0970 – Somerset County
Highway Foreman
February 21, 1972

Melvin F. Snyder, Jr.
0950 – Huntingdon County
Trans Equip Opr 3
16 years of service
September 15, 1987

Robert D. McClintock
0970 – Somerset County
Trans Equip Opr 1
17 years of service
August 20, 1988

Michael R. Romanchock
0970 – Somerset County
Trans Equip Opr 2
5 years of service
September 19, 1989

Charles Montgomery
0950 – Huntingdon County
Trans Equip Opr 1
19 years of service
July 12, 1990

Kenneth L. Windows
0900 – District Office
Trans Construction Inspector
18 years of service
May 16, 1994

Arthur R. Walter, Jr.
0920 – Blair County
Trans Equip Opr B
13 years of service
December 17, 2001

Robert E. Gensimore
0920 – Blair County
Highway Foreman 2
12 years of service
February 17, 2018

Bryan T. “Chipper” Chamberlain
0920 – Blair County
Trans Equip Opr A
3 years of service
August 30, 2018

Job Postings

Keller Engineers, Inc.

Keller Engineers, Inc. is seeking a full-time Highway Engineer and a full-time Senior Highway Engineer in the Transportation Division at our Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania office.

The Transportation Division provides Bridge (Highway and Railroad) and Highway Design as well as Bridge Inspection and Construction Inspection Services to State, Municipal and private clients throughout Pennsylvania.

If you are looking for an exciting, challenging career, Keller Engineers offers a wide variety of opportunities. We are an Equal Employment Opportunity firm that offers competitive wages, a healthcare benefit package, paid time off, paid holidays, and a 401K retirement plan. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Keller Engineers recognizes and rewards employees for hard work, innovation and creative thinking. We provide employees with tools and guidance to enable success while working in an environment that balances work and home.

If you would like to join the Keller Engineers' team, we welcome your resume for consideration. Upload resume to Keller Engineer's website "Careers" page.

OR submit resume to:

KELLER ENGINEERS, INC.
Attn: Human Resources
Post Office Box 61
420 Allegheny Street
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
accounting@keller-engineers.com

The successful **Highway Engineer** candidate must have five years of experience in the design of roadways and roadway improvements in accordance with PennDOT guidelines. Candidate must be a registered professional engineer in the commonwealth of PA. Project management experience is a plus.

The successful **Senior Highway Engineer** candidate must have a minimum ten years of experience in the design of roadways and roadway improvements in accordance with PennDOT guidelines. Candidate must be a registered professional engineer in the commonwealth of PA. The successful applicant must have experience managing transportation projects from inception to completion.



www.Keller-Engineers.com

Job Postings

SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc.

SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc. (SAI) is a leading transportation design and construction management firm based in Pittsburgh with offices in Harrisburg and Florida. Come and join our staff and work on local and statewide transportation projects, with excellent opportunities for professional growth and advancement. In addition to a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package, SAI offers a unique bonus program. For a limited time, SAI is offering signing incentives for qualified, experienced candidates.

SAI is currently seeking highly motivated individuals for the following positions:

BRIDGE ENGINEER

Responsible for performing a variety of structural engineering design and analysis of bridge, retaining wall, and culvert elements with potential for advancement to the position of Project Engineer.

Requirements:

- B.S. or M.S. in Civil Engineering
- E.I.T. or P.E. License
- 2+ Years of Experience in Bridge Design and Plan Presentation
- Knowledgeable in use of AASHTO Bridge Design Specifications

All candidates should possess excellent written and verbal communication skills and proficient computer skills. Experience on PennDOT and/or PA Turnpike Commission design projects is preferred.

Qualified applicants may submit current resume and salary history in confidence to:

SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc.
1350 Penn Avenue, Suite 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4211
Attention: Human Resources
Department
Email: mlkiefer@saiengr.com

Equal Opportunity Employer;
Drug-free Workplace



ASHE Builder's Club Members

Thank you for supporting the ASHE Altoona Section!

AECOM Technical Services, Inc • Alfred Benesch & Company

American Geotechnical & Environmental • Arrow Land Solutions, LLC • CDR Maguire, Inc.

Century Engineering • The EADS Group • GAI Consultants, Inc. • Geo-Mechanics, Inc.

Gibson-Thomas Engineering Co., Inc. • Grannas Bros. Stone & Asphalt Co., Inc.

Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. • Gwin, Dobson & Foreman, Inc. • HDR • Heberling Associates, Inc.

H. W. Lochner, Inc. • Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. • KCI Technologies, Inc.

Keller Engineers • Larson Design Group • L. R. Kimball • Mackin Engineering Company

The Markosky Engineering Group, Inc. • McCormick Taylor, Inc. • Michael Baker International, Inc.

ms consultants, inc. • Navarro & Wright Consulting Engineers, Inc. • N.E.S. & L. Co, Inc.

P. Joseph Lehman, Inc. • RETTEW Associates • SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc. • Skelly & Loy, Inc.

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. • Stiffler, McGraw & Associates, Inc. • STV Incorporated

Sucevic, Piccolomini, & Kuchar Engineering, Inc. • Traffic Planning and Design • TranSystems

Whitman, Requardt and Associates, LLP • Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani, LLC • WSP USA, Inc.

2018-2019

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Bill Wieserman

Second Vice-President

Dave Hognlund

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Michele Girolami

Treasurer

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Past President

Jessica Urbas

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1 Year

Barb Hoehne

Jason Shura

Geoff Stryker

2 Year

Sean Hart

Devin Lansberry

Matt Walerysiak

3 Year

Gloria Collier

Keven McCloskey

Alex Castrechini

Newsletter:

Editor

Keven McCloskey

kmccloskey@hwlochner.com

Please submit your March newsletter contributions by February 28, 2019.

The Roundabout

2/6 – ASHE East Penn Dinner Meeting
(Innovative Intersections/Interchanges)

2/6 – ASHE Pittsburgh Dinner Meeting
(Port Authority CEO - Katharine Kelleman)

2/12 – ASHE North East Penn Dinner Meeting
(GeoSpray Geopolymer Mortar Spray Lining)

2/27 – ASHE Southwest Penn Dinner Meeting
(Section Award Recipient Presentations)

2/28 – ASHE Clearfield PennDOT Update/Political Session

Save the Date! A Look Ahead...

3/20 – Moxham Bridge near Johnstown High School – SAI

4/16 – PennDOT District 9-0 Workshop

4/18 – Joint Meeting with Secretary Richards
(Altoona, Pittsburgh, Southwest, Mid-Allegheny)

Welcome New Members

- Nicholas Brien, PE of Dawood Engineering
- Matthew Thomas of PRIME AE Group

If you wish to be involved with the ASHE Altoona section for the 2019-2020 season, please contact Jessica Urbas at jurbas@pa.gov

The mission of the American Society of Highway Engineers is to provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry to promote a safe, efficient and sustainable transportation system through education, innovation and fellowship.

