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**Delaware Valley  
Chapter**

# DELAWARE VALLEY GEO-INSTITUTE

DVGI April 2024

Volume 24 Issue 4

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## April 2024 ASCE-DVGI - Multi-Technical Meeting

**SPEAKER:** Mr. Brandon T. Buschmeier, P.E., PMP, Menard USA

**TOPIC:** Rigid Inclusion Support for the Potomac Yard Metro Station

**DATE:** Thursday April 11, 2024 – 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM EST

**WHERE:** Crowne Plaza Philadelphia - King of Prussia  
260 Mall Boulevard King of Prussia, PA 19406

**COST:** \$70 Standard (\$80 after 3/29), \$50 Government/Students (\$60 after 3/29)

### Multi-Technical Meeting

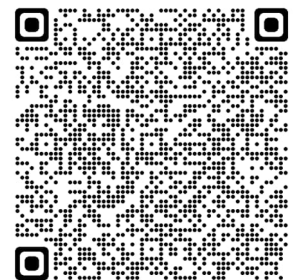
**MEETING ABSTRACT:**

The Potomac Yard Metro Station, inaugurated in May 2023, serves as a crucial link between Alexandria, Virginia, and Washington, DC. This station, along with the new rail lines and associated pedestrian walkways and bridges, is supported by Controlled Modulus Columns (CMCs). Employing different diameters, spacings, and depths, the CMCs are designed to increase the bearing capacity and reduce the long-term settlement of the station and associated structures while providing a more cost-effective solution compared to a traditional deep foundation pile scheme. Building upon the knowledge and perspectives acquired from the Potomac Yard Station, this presentation explores the design principles of CMCs across various soil compositions and under differing load conditions. It also examines the strengths and limitations inherent in utilizing CMCs for construction projects in the DMV area and beyond.

**ABOUT THE SPEAKER:**

Brandon T. Buschmeier serves as the Vice President at Menard USA, operating from the Media, Pennsylvania office. Leading projects across the east coast, he brings a wealth of expertise to his role. Brandon earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in 2008 and embarked on his journey with Menard USA as a field engineer. With 15 years dedicated to the design-build geotechnical contracting industry, Brandon’s professional trajectory is a testament to his unwavering commitment and expertise in the field. Previously serving as the Director of Engineering for Menard USA, he utilizes his technical skills and innovative thinking to approach geotechnical challenges and consistently delivers effective solutions to his clients.

Please register with QR code :





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## Student Night 2024 DVGI - Dinner Meeting

**Speaker : Ms. Helen Robinson, P.E., PMP, BC,GE, Vice President, Senior Project Manager and Branch Manager, GEI Consultants Inc**

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Ms. Helen Robinson, P.E., PMP, BC,GE is a Vice President, Senior Project Manager and Branch Manager at GEI Consultants in Exton, PA. She earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering from Penn State University and has over 20 years of experience providing design, analysis and construction management services for geotechnical and geosructual projects. She specializes in design of micropiles, tiebacks, soil nails, retaining walls, braced excavation support, grouting and ground improvement methods. Helen is Chair of the DFI-ADSC joint Micropile Committee and serves as Vice President of the Geo-Institute Board of Governors. She is a Trustee for the DFI Educational Trust and was named 2023 Geotechnical Engineer of the Year by the ASCE Philadelphia Section.





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## DVGI March 2024 Ethics Webinar

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**SPEAKER:** John Nawn, PE, PTOE, FNSPE, Delon Hampton and Associates,  
Chartered, Silver Spring, MD

**TOPIC:** Ethics and the Expert Witness

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### MEETING ABSTRACT:

The successful resolution of a litigation matters depends on, in addition to the skill of the attorney(s), an understanding of the legal process and an understanding of the role of the expert witness. This presentation explores some of the key considerations of the legal process along with what the expert witness does and does not do. Referencing primarily Pennsylvania Law, the presentation sets forth the legal basis for the expert witness's/forensic engineer's analyses, opinions, and testimony. While the practice may be different, the laws are similar in most states. The presentation closes with a discussion on the ethics of the engineer as it relates to the practice of forensic engineering, based on the NSPE Code of Ethics.

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

John holds a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from Drexel University. John is a licensed Professional Engineer in nine states, a certified Professional Traffic Operations Engineer, and a Fellow in the National Society of Professional Engineers. With over 36 years' experience, John is presently employed (full time) by Delon Hampton Associates as a member of their Project Management Oversight team on Federal Transit Administration Projects including the replacement of the Raritan River Bridge on NJ Transit and a multi-billion-dollar station upgrade program for MTA, New York.

John also presently provides forensic engineering/expert witness services (part time) to plaintiffs and defendants on matters including highway design, highway construction, highway maintenance, work zone traffic control, traffic control devices including traffic signals, signs and markings, intersection design, pavement and road surface design and maintenance, human factors related to the driving task, accident analyses and trucking related matters, snow and ice control, parking lot design, layout, operation and pedestrian accommodation, pedestrian movement, sidewalks, ramps, crosswalks, ADA accessibility, municipal and public utilities placement, operation, and maintenance within the public right-of-way, construction management, professional engineering practice, liability, and standard of care, construction management, premises liability, stairway and means of egress analyses. Over 500 expert reports completed. Testified in deposition and/or trial over 50 times as an expert witness, in local, state, and federal court in multiple states and jurisdictions.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Student Night!

#### STUDENT SPEAKERS:

- Will Baker, University of Delaware,
- Weiling Cai, Rowan University,
- Kaniz Roksana , Rowan University,

#### Student Poster Presenters:

- Nozari Amin University of Delaware
  - Thomas Mayer, (presented by Thommy Messmer) Villanova
    - Yoosefi Siamak, University of Delaware
  - Mohammadreza Jebeli, University of Delaware
    - Mohamad El Ahmad, Villanova
    - Daniel Damilare Adeleke, Villanova
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### Student Night Photos!

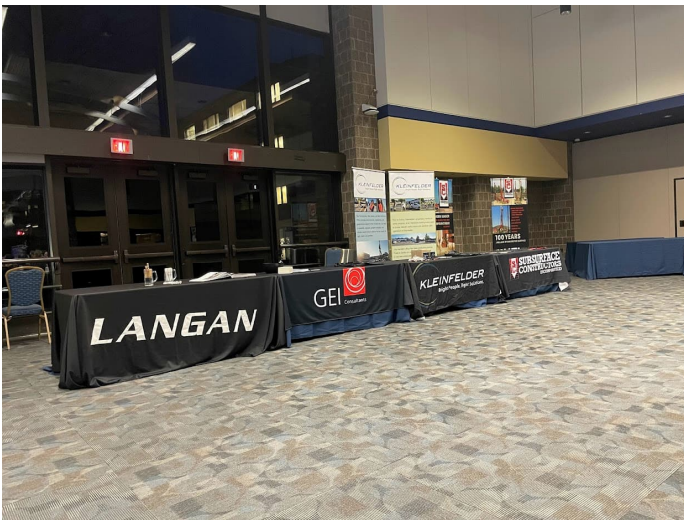




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### Student Night Photos!





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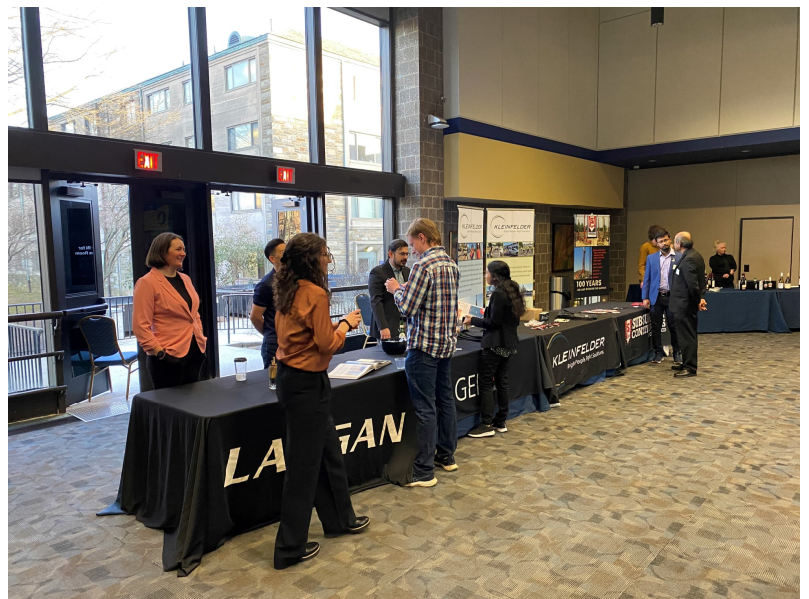




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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Student Night Photos!







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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# Save the Date! June 14, 2024 DVGI Annual Golf Outing



## Save the Date! DVGI Golf Outing Benefitting the Scholarship Fund June 13, 2024

**Kimberton Golf Club  
162 Ridge Road  
Phoenixville, PA 19460  
9:00 am Shotgun Start**

**Registration Details to Follow**



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### **\*\*DVGI PROJECT OF THE YEAR\*\***

Deadline for Submission is April 30, 2024

Have your Project Featured!

Project of the Year to be announced in May 2024

Projects to be featured in DVGI Newsletters!

Please direct all submission materials and questions to Bob Crawford (bobc@jjaconstruction.com). Application can be found at the DVGI Homepage at <http://www.dvgi.org/GPOY.html>

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(dmarano@pennoni.com)

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(lgu@gfnet.com)

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Kayla Nelson, E.I.T.  
(knelson@schnabel-eng.com)



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## Geosynthetic Institute

### GSI RECORDED WEBINARS

- Topics, and Registration at [www.geosynthetic-institute.org/webinar.htm](http://www.geosynthetic-institute.org/webinar.htm)
  - Each Webinar Carries 1.5 Professional Development Hours Upon Completion of a 10-Question Multiple Choice Test
    - Each presentation lasts approximately 90 minutes

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ALL WEBINARS WILL BE RECORDED AND CAN BE PURCHASED FOR VIEWING AT  
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GSI/GMA Members \$200.00 USD per each Webinar

ASCE/G-I Members:  
Read past and present issues of Geo-Strata magazine online at [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

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Upcoming Dates for 2023-24 Dinner Meetings and events are as follows:

04/11/2024 – Thursday : Brandon T. Buschmeier, P.E.

05/21/2024 – Tuesday– Gardiner Lecture : To Be Announced

06/13/2024 – Thursday– Annual Golf Outing 9:00 AM Shotgun Start

*One PDH will be awarded for most meetings that you attend.*

*If you are interested in presenting at one of our monthly meetings or have ideas about potential speakers, please get in touch with a DVGI board member.*

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### *On Director's Cut*

Geo-Institute Director Brad Keelor interviews G-I members about anything and everything. You might hear about their favorite geotechnical project, their favorite music, or their favorite pie. In Episode 18 of Season 3, Brad speaks with Theresa Andrejack Loux of Aero Aggregates!

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See the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2NpduqmwZA&list=PLXHjEGSzMpJWGH&index=3&pp=iAQB>

[v=h2NpduqmwZA&list=PLXHjEGSzMpJWGH&index=3&pp=iAQB](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2NpduqmwZA&list=PLXHjEGSzMpJWGH&index=3&pp=iAQB)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### HAVE DVGI PUBLISH YOUR ARTICLE, ADVERTISEMENT, OR JOB POSTING

- Do you have an interesting article on a project or individual in your organization that you would like to have published in the DVGI newsletter?
- Would you like to get the word out about a job opening, new venture, etc. to our membership via the newsletter?

Please submit your articles or news items for consideration in the next edition of the newsletter or get in touch about our reasonably priced advertising by contacting Neil Scafonas (neil.scafonas@aecom.com).

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### **\*\*DVGI PROJECT OF THE YEAR\*\***

5<sup>th</sup> Annual DVGI Geotechnical Project of the Year Competition

Submissions to be accepted through **April 30, 2024**

Project of the Year to be announced in May 2024

Projects to be featured in DVGI Newsletters!

Please direct all submission materials and questions to Bob Crawford (bobc@jjaconstruction.com). Application can be found at the DVGI Homepage at <http://www.dvgi.org/GPOY.html>

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Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
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