



**GEO-
INSTITUTE**
**Delaware Valley
Chapter**

DELAWARE VALLEY GEO-INSTITUTE

DVGI - October, 2025

Volume 25, Issue 7

Inside this issue:

October 2025 Meeting.....	1
September 2025 Meeting.....	2-5
Announcements	6-14
Corporate Sponsors.....	15-18
Universities	19

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October 2025 DVGI Dinner Meeting

SPEAKER: Melinda Eason, P.E. — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

TOPIC: "Geotechnical Review of Beach Nourishment at Indian River Inlet"

DATE: Tuesday October 14, 2025 – Social Hour 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM;
Dinner 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM; Presentations 7:30PM to 8:30PM

WHERE: Valley Forge Casino – “Parkview Ballroom”

1160 1st Ave, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Cost: \$70 General, \$35 Government/Retired, \$10 Student Rates

Complimentary Drink Ticket Included for Registrants Over 21

MEETING ABSTRACT:

The Indian River Inlet in Delaware is a vital access point to the Delaware Inland Bays, supporting commercial, recreational, and U.S. Coast Guard navigation. Initially authorized by Congress in 1937 and modified in 1945, the project includes parallel jetties spaced 500 feet apart, a 200-foot-wide channel dredged to a depth of 15 feet extending 7,000 feet into the bay, and additional dredging of a 9-foot-deep channel through the bay and river. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District received funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for maintenance repairs, including design and construction of jetty restoration, repair of a failed bulkhead on the interior north shore, and beachfill nourishment to reduce erosion. The project addresses geotechnical aspects of shoreline instability and infrastructure risks through engineered solutions that protect navigation, infrastructure, and surrounding beaches.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Melinda Eason is a Geotechnical Engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, and a registered Professional Engineer in Delaware. She has over 11 years of combined private and public sector experience in geotechnical engineering, including shallow and deep foundation design, site characterization, beach nourishment, and dredging projects. Melinda earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Kentucky and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at Villanova University with a focus on geotechnical engineering. In addition to her engineering career, she is a strong advocate for STEM education.

Please register by October 9th, 2025 at:

[DVGI October Dinner Meeting](#)





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September 2025 DVGI Dinner Meeting – 2024 — 2025 DVGI Project of the Year

Speaker : Jennifer Peirce Brandt, P.E. — President, Peirce Engineering

Topic : 2024 — 2025 DVGI Project of the Year Winner: "Roberts Children's Health at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia"

2024-2025 DVGI GEOTECHNICAL PROJECT OF THE YEAR ABSTRACT:

The campus expansion project in University City will include an inpatient tower building connected to the flagship hospital. Peirce Engineering collaborated to provide geo-structural services required to jumpstart the project. The project was challenging due to the congested city location surrounded by medical buildings, the unknown geotechnical conditions, and adjacent research buildings and potential noise and vibration impacts. With little space to accommodate a traditional support system, a soil nail system was used to laterally support the existing foundation walls. Additional geotechnical solutions included underpinning, rock bolting, soldier beams and lagging, tieback anchors, and drilled shafts.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Jennifer Peirce Brandt is the President of Peirce Engineering, Inc. She is a registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey with over 30 years of experience in civil, highway, and geotechnical engineering. Her experience includes design of temporary and permanent excavation support systems, micropiles, underpinning, tiebacks, pile load tests, and prefabricated, panel truss bridges. Jennifer holds B.S. degrees in both Civil and Architectural Engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA where she concentrated in Structural Engineering.





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September 2025 DVGI - 2024 — 2025 DVGI Project of the Year – Dinner Meeting

Photo Gallery



Photo Gallery





September 2025 DVGI - 2024 — 2025 DVGI Project of the Year – Dinner Meeting

Photo Gallery





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ANNOUNCEMENTS: DVGI PROJECT OF THE YEAR 2024-25

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2024-2025 PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD
WINNER: PEIRCE ENGINEERING, INC.!**

September's dinner meeting included a presentation on this project.





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ANNOUNCEMENTS—SAVE THE DATE FOR THE GETT EXPO 2025

The Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology ® (GETT) Expo is an annual event for girls in grades 4-10, along with their parents and educators, to learn more about career opportunities in a broad scope of STEM related industries. The day is filled with exciting and enlightening experiences including hands-on activities lead by successful women in STEM fields. GETT is a free event to all students, however accompanying adults will be charged a fee of \$10 to attend, to help offset event costs.

GETT 2025 is taking place at the The Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks, PA on November 1st from 10am – 2pm. For information about registration, please visit <https://gettpa.org>.

If you'd like to volunteer at GETT 2025 as a representative of DVGI, or have suggestions for demonstrations, please contact Theresa Loux (tloux@aeroaggregates.com).



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A 3D architectural rendering of a modern city skyline with various skyscrapers, green spaces, and a hot air balloon in the sky. In the foreground, there are construction cranes and building structures, suggesting a geotechnical or construction theme.

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An advertisement for Langan. The top half features a photograph of a bridge under construction with the word 'LANGAN' in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters overlaid. The bottom half has a dark blue background. On the left, a white rectangular box contains the text 'WE ARE HIRING!' in bold, followed by 'Langan's Philadelphia Geotechnical group is growing. See how you can make an impact by joining our collaborative teams.' in a smaller font. To the right of this box are two circular award logos: 'Hot Firm 2024' with a flame icon and '2024 Best Firms To Work For' with a starburst icon. At the bottom of the advertisement, the website 'LANGAN.COM/CAREERS' is displayed in white capital letters.

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Upcoming Dates for 2025-26 Dinner Meetings, Webinars and Events are as follows:

10/14/2025 – Tuesday – Melinda Eason, P.E. — “Geotechnical Review of Beach Nourishment at Indian River Inlet”

11/01/2025 – Saturday – GETT Expo 2025

11/18/2025 – Tuesday – Catherine Chia-Calabria — “James Street Bridge Replacement over the Christina River”

12/2025 — Ethics Webinar—Date and Speaker TBD

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.

NEW DVGI.ORG WEBSITE



Welcome to Delaware Valley Geo-Institute!

- [About Us](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Corporate Ads and Sponsorship](#)
- [Current Sponsors](#)
- [Geotechnical Resources](#)
- [Newsletter and Attendance](#)
- [Students and Scholarships](#)

Check out our revamped website at DVGI.ORG!



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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 Joseph Murray (jmurray@mrce.com).

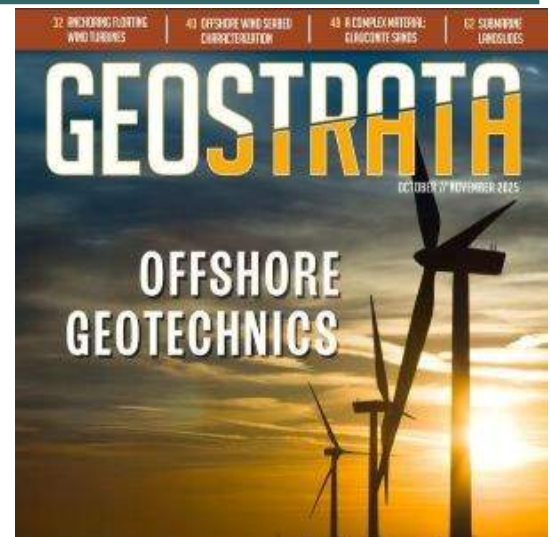
Geo-Institute

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 35 of Season 6, our guest is Alba Yerro-Colom of Virginia Tech!

<https://gi-directorscut.asce.org/e/s06-e35-alba-yerro-colum-virginia-tech/>

ASCE/G-I Members:
Read past and present issues of Geo-Strata
magazine online at

<https://www.geoinstitute.org/publications/geostrata>





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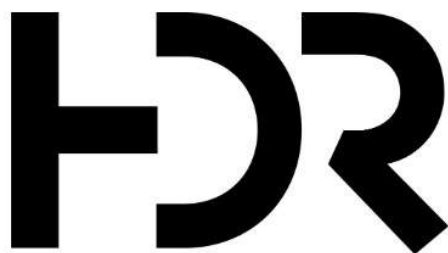
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