

# 2023 OUTSTANDING SECTION / BRANCH AWARD NOMINATION FORM

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- An event/activity may only be used once and cannot be repeated throughout the application. Please select the most appropriate category. There are potential negative points for an event/activity that is repeated.
- Sections should NOT include activities completed by their Branches and Branches should NOT include activities completed by their Section.
- Applications are limited to 12 pages plus a copy of one newsletter.
- Point totals are listed under each category for a maximum of 125 points.
- Only list activities from October 1 September 30 which can be either virtual or in-person.
- Please e-mail an electronic PDF file to Nancy Berson at ASCE: <a href="mailto:nberson@asce.org">nberson@asce.org</a> by October 30, 2023.

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

Award Classification (check one):	<ul> <li>□ Very Large Section/Branch (&gt; 4000 members)</li> <li>□ Large Section/Branch (1501-4000 members)</li> <li>□ Medium Section/Branch (501-1500 members)</li> <li>☑ Small Section/Branch (&lt; 501 members)</li> </ul>
Section/Branch Nominee:	Richmond (Branch), Virginia
Name and Board Position of Contact Member:	Kohltan Heiter, President
ASCE Member ID:	000011857726
Address:	12503 Cutler Ridge Dr., Richmond, VA, 23233
Telephone:	(712) 210-6263
E-mail:	kohltan.heiter@hdrinc.com

## **NOMINATION QUESTIONS/SCORING**

125 points maximum

### A. COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS (15 Points Maximum)

• Newsletter (1 point per issue, 5 points maximum):

Please include one electronic newsletter with the Award nomination package or include a link to an active website. The links must be active to receive points for this section. Points will be given for the number of newsletters published either on the website, e-mailed to members or on social media.

Number of Newsletters Published Annually:	12
Newsletter Links (if available):	Newsletter   ASCE Richmond

 Website (5 points maximum): Verify that all links are active prior to submission.

Website Link:	ASCE Richmond
	Content included:
	<b>About</b> - Information regarding our branch, current officers, and past officers (past decade)
	Join ASCE – in reaction to potential members asking about
	how to register and/or affiliate with our chapter, a Join ASCE
	page was added, linking site visitors to the National ASCE
	webpage and providing instructions.
	Events – provides a list of current and past activities including
	community service events, monthly technical meetings, younger
	member events, and membership events; also provides board contact information for those seeking to be involved or communicate
	an idea related to future events
	Gallery – compilation of event photos through the years
	Newsletter – provides a link to our latest newsletter
	Annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Contest – communicates relevant
	information for volunteers, students, and teachers looking to get
Discuss the content	involved with the annual event; as well as recognizes the past year
included on your website:	contest winners, displays past year results, and shows photos of
	event to increase interest
	<b>Annual Golf Tournament –</b> communicates relevant information to potential volunteers or participates, as well as provides past photos
	from the event to draw interest. Serves as a space to market the
	tournament well in advance ("save the date") and as the event nears
	provides easy access to registration
	Awards – documents past recipients of awards given out to
	members during our annual membership event; also provides link to
	nomination form and instructions for upcoming years awards when
	they open
	Job Postings – for a small fee, our member's firms are allowed to
	advertise a job posting to our website (also included in newsletter) for a set duration
	Footers – links to affiliated organizations, companies
	represented by our board, and the ASCE Infrastructure Report Card.
	Social Media – links to our LinkedIn Page, and Instagram account
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are provided in the top right of the page to draw additional attention to our Branch
ASCE Richmond's website and monthly newsletter work together to as our primary marketing and advertisement tools to communicate to our current membership and draw in new members.

• Social Media Tools (5 points maximum):

Provide screenshots in a separate document how you communicate with members on social media. The judges may ask you to give them access to your group/page to review if they are not public.

Discuss all active Social Media platforms and their title used to communicate with your Section/Branch We use our LinkedIn and Instagram accounts to advertise upcoming branch events as well as share photographs and news on past events. We find these two tools help to increase our presence and draw in event attendees and increase new membership.

Instagram Link
LinkedIn Link

# B. <u>PROFESSIONAL / LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES, AWARDS / RECOGNITION, SCHOLARSHIPS AND MENTORING</u> (20 Points Maximum)

<u>Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Activities</u> (5 points maximum):

Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Committee Meetings (1 point each, 2 points max)

Professional Committee:	Number of Meetings:	Presentation Topic(s):
Monthly Officers and Committee Chair Meetings	12	Richmond Branch holds monthly board meetings.  These board metings are conducted in a professional setting and follow Robert's Rules of Order. The meetings serve as a way to enhance board coordination and promote each member's leadership and organziational skills; often seeing newer members begin their involvement as committee chairs and then climbing the positional ladder with the support of the veteran officers.
Younger Members Committee	1	Joint Younger Professional Happy Hour with APWA (January 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2023)
Younger Members Committee	1	Joint Younger Professional Happy Hour with WTS (June 28th, 2023)

Professional / Leadership (Non-Technical) Seminars (1 point each, 3 points max)

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Presentation Topics / Describe Seminar:

Awards/Recognition (1 point each, 5 points maximum):

Awards Given by the Section/Branch

Name of Award:	Recipient:	Describe:
Advocate of the Year (Firm)	Timmons Group, Inc.	Company actively engaged in the local branch through involvement on the board, sponsorships for events, attending activities, and/or presenting at technical presentations, etc.
Advocate of the Year (Individual)	Bryan Stevenson	Individual actively engaged in the local branch through involvement on the board, attendance at activities, actively promotes the ASCE organization to the community/potential new members, and/or presenting at technical presentations, etc.
Branch Officer of the Year	Matt Amonette	Intended to recognize dedication, hard work and ingenuity that Branch officers provide to ASCE. Consideration shall be given to the Branch Officer who has exhibited exceptional leadership, management, service, or innovative ideas to their Branch.

Society Awards Received by the Section / Branch or its members

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Name of Award:	Recipient:	Describe:
2022 Outstanding Small Branch of the Year	Richmond Branch	The purpose of this award is to promote activity and program excellence among the sections and branches of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Branch received the small branch award (<501 members).
2022 Outstanding Section and Branch Web Site Award Certificate of Commendation	Richmond Branch	The purpose of this award is to promote the use of a web site among the Sections and Branches of the American Society of Civil Engineers. This certificate of commendation was provided to the runners-up of this award.

## • Scholarships (5 points maximum):

Scholarships to High School Students (1 point each)

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	Name of Scholarship:	Amount of Scholarship:	Describe:

Scholarships to College Students (1 point each)

Name of Scholarship:	Amount of Scholarship:	Describe:
Richmond Branch Civil Engineering Scholarship (1)	\$1,000	Scholarship winners had to submit an application listing their education, employment history, ASCE involvement, extracurricular activities, and a transcript which were all assigned a point score. In addition, applicants answered the following short essay question "How do you think recently developed technologies like Artificial Intelligence, drones, Autonomous Vehicles, etc. will impact civil engineering projects and industry?".  Essays were graded by members of the Richmond Branch and point scores totaled to select a winner. Winners demonstrated past accomplishments, enthusiasm for Civil Engineering, and potential contributions to the Civil Engineering community and civic

		infrastructure at the local, state, and national level.
Richmond Branch Civil Engineering Scholarship (2)	\$1,000	See description above, the top 2 winners were chosen.

## • Mentoring Activities of ASCE Members (5 points maximum):

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:

## C. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES / INSTITUTE CHAPTERS AND ACTIVITIES (15 Points Maximum)

Section/Branch Technical Committees or Institute Chapters (minimum of 2 technical or virtual

meetings per year; 1 point each, 5 points max)

Technical Committee:	Number of Meetings:	Presentation Topic(s):

Section/Branch Technical Seminars / Courses with PDHs (1 point each, 5 points max)

Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:
10/06/2022	25 (in-person)	Risk Management and Loss Prevention  Two well respected and highly practiced civil attorneys from O-Hagan Meyer provided practical knowledge for civil engineers to take into their contract review and preparation. Presentation highlighted words to avoid in contracts and understanding professional liability insurance, among other aspects.
11/17/2022	25 (in-person)	Discussion of Geogrid Basics and New Developments Steve Willilams, PE, with Tensar, discussed the fundamental concepts of subgrade stabilization using geogrids, other geosynthetics, and conventional methods. He also provided guidance for design and a discussion of performance and specification criteria. Discussed new developments within the geogrid space and relevant case studies using these applications.
01/26/2023	30 (in-person)	Maintaining Route 199 Infrastructure: Aging Sheet Pile Walls, High Traffic Volumes, and Utilities – No Problem Ryan Tinsley, PG (GSI Inc.) and Kirill Gorin (VDOT) discussed the options considered to stabilize 670 LF of sheet pile walls with exposed heights ranging from 11 to 24 feet along Route 199. The presentation also covered the challenges faced during construction and how these challenges were overcome while maintaining traffic on this vital corridor for the Williamsburg community. This rehabilitation project saved the Department considerable time, money and unmeasurable inconvenience to the traveling public compared to a replacement option, while still extending the service life an anticipated 75 additional years.

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Date:	Approx. Attendees:	Describe:
02/23/2023	35 (in-person)	VDOT's Non-Destructive Testing and Evaluation Program Adam Matteo, Assistant State Bridge Engineer with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), provided an overview of VDOT's non-destructive testing and evaluation program. The presentation addressed the technologies employed by VDOT and the intended purposes and uses of those technologies. The topics ranged from more conventional NDE/NDT methods to newer technologies that VDOT is working to implement. Examples of its use on both large and small bridges were discussed. The program also addressed VDOT's specifications and methods for procuring these services.
05/16/2023	75 Total 25 (in-person) 50 (virtual)	2023 Virginia Stormwater Handbook and Regulatory/Policy Update (first hybrid-style meeting offered) The presentation provided an overview of Virginia DEQ's efforts to consolidate Stormwater-related policies and regulations and update the stormwater, erosion control and Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance materials to produce a new 2023 Virginia Stormwater Handbook. This presentation also described stakeholder engagement activities and efforts to review stormwater materials for consistency with Governor Youngkin's Executive Order #19. Presentation was provided by Scott Morris, PE, Director of Water Division with DEQ and Chris Soldan, PE, Water Resources Engineer with Arcadis.

Other Technical / Educational Activities and Benefits for Section / Branch Members (1 point each,

5 points max)

# Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Expansion Project – Technical Lunch Meeting -06/22/2023

Presentation covered the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Expansion Project which is the largest highway construction project in Virginia's history. This transformative undertaking will widen the current fourlane segments along nearly ten miles of the I-64 corridor in Norfolk and Hampton, with new twin tunnels across the harbor. The expansion will increase capacity, ease major congestion, and enhance travel time reliability. Including the construction contract and owner's costs, the project's total budget is over \$3.9 billion, making it one of the largest infrastructure projects in the country. (20 in-person attendees; 15 virtual attendees)

Describe other technical / educational activities and benefits for Section / Branch members:

# Virginia State Rail Plan - Technical Lunch Meeting - 08/17/2023

Presentation covered the 2022 Virginia State Rail Plan, which is the first Rail Plan in the country to be fully built using ESRI's ArcGIS Online platform. This FRA required document was brought to life through innovative uses of StoryMaps, Web Applications, Dashboards, and other features to create a unique Rail Plan more accessible to the public and other stakeholders. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are essential to planning and engineering projects, but DRPT brought the platform to the forefront for their development and a digital delivery of the plan. (35 in-person attendees; 10 virtual attendees)

Overview of the Fall Line Trail

- Technical Lunch Meeting -09/14/2023

Ingrid Stenbjørn, PE, Ashland Town Engineer and Sheila Reeves, PE, Senior Project Manager with Timmons Group, presented the historical context of the project, construction process and challenges encountered during the design and construction of the initial phase of the Fall Line Trail. Local project that impacts the community. (20 in-person attendees; 15 virtual attendees)

# Attendance at 2023 Younger Member Leadership Symposium (YMLS)

Branch funded one member to attend this years YMLS event. Maya, our Branch secretary, brought back what she learend while at the event and shared with our officers and committee chairs during our monthly board meeting.

#### Attendance/Committee Member 2023 ERYMC

Niko Ambrose, Branch Membership Committee Chair, served as the treasury committee lead for the Region 4 Younger Member Advisory Council and assisted with organization of events at the 2023 ERYMC.

#### D. <u>MEMBERSHIP</u> (10 Points Maximum)

Describe efforts to involve Student Members in	This year we continued to represent the ASCE Chapter of the University of Virginia and the ASCE Chapter of Old Dominion University with a practioner advisors.
Section/Branch Activities (2 points):	We have also found that by offering certain events/presentations with a virtual option that, it has allowed more student chapter members to attend (such as our technical lunch meetings being hybrid meetings as of May 2023).
Describe Member recruitment programs (2 points):	Our monthly technical lunch meetings continue to be our primary means of driving recruitment and interaction with members. This year we held all our technical meetings in person and offered 15-minute window of networking prior to the meeting. We also started each meeting with attendee introductions, which encouraged networking and instilled a sense of welcomeness to new attendees. In May of 2023, we began offering these meeting as "hybrid" to further our reach and accessibility.  We have tracked non-member attendees this year, and reached out to encourage them to become members and get them onto our Richmond email list to receive our newsletters, etc.
Describe Member retention programs (2 points):	This year we held our Annual Member Appreciation event (Richmond Branch Centennial Event) at an event space in Richmond on October 22, 2022. Approximately 40 members came together at this year's event for food, drink, and networking. The event was well received and provided our Branch the opportunity to reconnect its members and provide recognition to individuals and firms for their ASCE support. Branch honored Life Members and recognized 2022 Life Member Gary Pasquarell who was in attendance at the event.

	In addition to our membership event, we added a membership spotlight feature in our monthly newsletter. This feature is titled "Five Questions with (member name)" where we craft unique questions highlighting an area of interest for said member. This feature is a way to establish a personal connection with our members, ensure they feel valued, and showcase their diverse backgrounds - whether that be a specific aspect of their job, volunteer experience, technical research, higher education achievements and so on.
Describe any recognition programs for employers supporting ASCE (2 points):	ASCERichmond.org recognizes the companies of all members who have volunteered to be active board members and links to their company webpages are displayed on our website for free advertising.  We also offer sponsorship opportunities for our technical meetings. Sponsoring employers receive the opportunity to provide a short blub in our event advertisement and a couple minutes to speak prior to the meeting start.
Describe other Membership Activities / Events (2 points):	This year we hosted several free events exclusively for our members, including younger member happy hours, a Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball game outing, and our first Richmond Kickers soccer game outing. These activities gave our members a chance to connect in a low key, relaxed environment.

# E. <u>PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES</u> (10 Points Maximum)

	The <b>Annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition</b> (PSBC) was
	held on February 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023. The event is held in conjunction
	with Richmond's Joint Engineering Councils "Celebrating
	Engineering Ingenuity" (CEI) Day, to help raise awareness and
	interest in STEM professions among local middle and high
	school students. This year's event returned to the Science
	Museum of Virginia, the traditional location prior to COVID.
	This year's competition featured 34 Middle School entries and
	39 High School entries (entries were either individuals or
Describe outreach activities with	teams of up to three students).
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elementary, middle, or high schools (1 point each, 5 points max):	ASCE volunteers helped test the bridges and answered questions about the competition and the civil engineering industry. ASCE Richmond also setup a booth specifically dedicated to provided educational material on ASCE as an organization. Content for the booth was provided by ASCE National.
	Jeff Huffman (Branch President at the time) presented at the
	Quioccasin Middle School's Career Day on March 31, 2023.
	Jeff presented "careers in engineering" during five sessions
	, ,
	with around 20 students each.

Describe outreach activities via media outlets (1 point each, 3 points max):	
Describe other public outreach or educational activities (1 point each, 2 points max):	In addition to hosting our own events we are also connected with the local schools/communities. If local schools request engineers to talk with students at their events we advertise these opportunities to our board and membership to assist when possible.

# F.<u>COLLEGE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES</u> (20 Points Maximum for entire section) – CHOOSE #1 or #2.

# 1. Section/Branch has an ASCE Student Chapter(s)

List each Student Chapter and at least one current Practitioner Advisor for each school. Note if you have less than 5 schools in your Section/Branch. (2 points each if five schools or more, 10 points maximum).	No student chapters are present in our local area. However we have PA's at UVA and ODU.  University of Virginia – PA is James Dishner (Branch Webmaster) Old Dominion University – PA is Niko Ambrose (Branch Membship Chair)
Describe Student Interaction Activities between each ASCE Student Chapters and the Section/Branch (2 points each, 10 points max):	Two Richmond Branch officers (Jeff Huffman and JD Dishner) attended the 2023 Virginia Region Student Chapter Symposium held at Marshall University. JD attended as a judge, while Jeff attended as the CSCC representative.  Receipients of the Richmond Branch Civil Engineering Scholarships virtually attended a monthly Richmond Branch board meeting. It provided an opportunity for the recipients and the officers to network.  We attempt to make contact with all Virginia universities offering a undergraduate program, particularly those that have an ASCE student chapter, and provide our scholarship application to faculty or the student chapters to share with students.  The Richmond Branch is aware that Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) is preparing to offer a civil engineering program. Our board has been in contact with the school to offer our support.

# 2. Section/Branch does not have any ASCE Student Chapter(s)

Describe outreach activities with	
college students other than those	N/A
involved with ASCE (5 points	
each, 20 points max):	

# G. <u>COMMUNITY SERVICE, PUBLIC SERVICE, HISTORY & HERITAGE,</u> <u>SUSTAINABILITY, AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</u> (10 Points Maximum)

NOTE: ASCE also awards a History and Heritage Award. If you have such activities and want to be considered for that award, describe those activities here and submit a copy of this application

directly to Jennifer Lawrence at jlawrence@asce.org.

Describe public service projects	Organized several volunteers to prepare breakfast for guests
(2 points):	staying at the Ronal McDonald House on October 8th, 2022.
	Our April 2023 Technical Lunch meeting covered the Powell
	Valley, Route 23 Highway design in Wise County (Wiley   Wilson
	selected for design in 1984). This project was recognized in 1995
Describe History and Heritage	by the FHWA and awarded the National Quality Initiative
Describe History and Heritage Activities (2 points):	Achievement Award, the first of its kind and one of five granted in
Activities (2 points).	the United States. The presenter, a retiree with Wiley   Wilson,
	was even able to bring in copies of the as-built plans in their
	original bindings to share with the younger attendees the common
	standard deliverable during that time.
	This year as we hosted our Delegate Meet & Greet (4th Annual)
	on February 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023.
Describe Communicate Deletions	The event serves as an opportunity for local state delegates and
Describe Government Relations activities (2 points):	engineering professionals to network and discuss state legislature
activities (2 points).	issues regarding civil engineering, as well as the 2022 Virginia
	Infrastructure Report Card. About 50 people were in attendance
	at the networking event.
	While not the primary topic, several of our technical meetings
	touched on sustainability in the various aspects of the project
	design discussions.
Describe Sustainability Seminars	
held by the Section/Branch promoting the advancement of the principles of sustainable development (2 points):	Specifically, our technical lunch meeting on March 16th, 2023,
	discussed green stormwater infrastructure solutions that can be
	used in urban settings. This included design solutions related to
	space efficient storage, filters and screens, media and biofiltration
	systems, and use of alternative surfaces for roadways, parking
	lots, and sidewalks.
Describe Community Service	Our Bi-annual roadway cleanup along a 2-mile stretch of adopted
	highway was held on December 10, 2022 and April 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023 to
events (1 point each, 2 points	clean up debris and maintain the beauty of our highways. In
max):	addition to the roadway cleanup our branch hosts an annual river
	clean up along the James River.

### H. <u>DIVERSITY</u>, <u>EQUITY</u>, <u>AND INCLUSION</u> (15 Points Maximum)

ASCE fosters a fully inclusive culture that celebrates individual uniqueness, engenders a sense of belonging, and promotes equitable opportunity for all people to participate as members and stakeholders of the civil engineering community. ASCE's Committee on "Members of Society Advancing an Inclusive Culture" reviews this section to select Outstanding Section/Branches for their efforts in developing and implementing programs that promote an equitable and inclusive climate in the profession.

Inclusive Events - What best practices has your Section/Branch implemented to ensure meetings/events are equitable and inclusive for all prospective participants? (1 point each, 5 points max):

Our Branch conducts surveys at each of our technical meetings to solicit feedback regarding venue, food, presentation, parking, and accessibility. We particularly heard concerns over parking and accessibility of the former venue from our older members who had difficulty finding close

parking and navigating the steep stairs of the venue. As a Branch we heard our members concerns and in October 2022 we moved our technical meetings to a new venue which offered on site parking and is wheelchair accessible. We saw an increase in attendance from our older members and appreciation for the relocation of our meetings. In addition to the above, we began offering our meeting as a "hybrid" style (in person and virtual); this allows for the meeting to be more accessible for those that can not attend in person due to travel, etc. We also expanded our discussion topics to areas of civil engineering we do not typically cover. Our meeting have been scheduled well in advance to allow or members time to make any necessary arrangements to attend and we take care to avoid meetings during holiday busy periods. This past year we had several women serving on our board including our Secretary, Communication Chair, and Community Service Chair. We fully Leadership & Engagement - In what ways has encourage all members to participate in our the Section/Branch/Group demonstrated a activities and on our board and promote diversity, commitment to DEI? (1 point each, 5 points equity, and inclusion for all our events. max): We also hosted a joint social event with WTS, ASHE, VASITE, & VPWA. Inclusive Communications and Training - In We are lucky in that we have a very diverse and what ways does your Section/Branch ensure inclusive BOD. This has facilitated the content we that communications with and about members publish such as our monthly newsletter and and partners are inclusive and asset-based and discuss how you Section/Branch supports DEI technical meeting content to in turn be inclusive related training and programs? (1 point each, 5 and friendly to our members. points max):

#### I. <u>ADDITIONAL SECTION / BRANCH ACTIVITIES</u> (10 Points Maximum)

Describe any other non-standard activities that are not covered under other sections of the nomination form that your Section or Branch has undertaken to promote or advance the Civil Engineering profession to either your members or the public. Note that Sections applying for the award should not include their Branch activities and vice versa for Branches. These can include other Community Service projects, hosting of Regional meetings, fundraising, mentoring, and other best practices. Describe the activity and give dates, locations and number in attendance. Also describe any activities relative to the creation of a Section / Branch strategic plan and/or efforts to support the Society's Strategic Initiatives (ie. sustainability efforts). These activities may also be eligible for the Leader Training Committee Best Practices Manual. A maximum of two (2) points will be given for each of up to five (5) non-standard activities.

Type of Activity/Event/Initiative:	Date (if applicable):	Describe:
ASCE Best Practices Presentation	April 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Richmond Branch's Communication Chair, Paige Lazar, presented during ASCE's Best Practices for Branches and Sections Webinar on the success our branch has had on revitalizing our newsletter. She discussed how the newsletter has changed visually and the additional articles that have been added.
Engineering & Public Works Roadshow	March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Richmond Branch ASCE members and officers attended the engineering and public works roadshow which stopped at the Main Street Station Shed in downtown Richmond. The roadshow focuses on highlighting engineering beacons and the importance engineers have on meeting our countries infrastructure needs. By our members attending we served as an outlet for those in the community who had questions.
19 <sup>th</sup> Annual ASCE Richmond Branch Golf Tournament	October 18, 2022	The ASCE Richmond Branch hosts an annual golf tournament as our primary method of raising money to support our educational outreach efforts (primarily our civil engineering college scholarships and the popsicle bridge high school and middle school competition. The tournament also provides a networking opportunity for members. We also offer discounted entry for government employees and students to encourage their involvement. The 19th annual tournament had six teams enter and we raised approximately \$2,000, an improvement from prior year but still down a bit since the peak observed prior to COVID.
Corresponding Member of Committee on Sutdent Conferences & Competiions	Bi-Monthly Meetings	Jeff Huffman, Richmond Branch Past President, participates in the bi-monthly meetings for this society level committee. Jeff brings the knowledge gained from this committee to our branch to help find ways to enhance our interaction with students at the local level.