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## ASCE Midlands February Newsletter 2023

1 message

Lydia Mignogna <LMignogna@brwncald.com>

Thu, Feb 9, 2023 at 1:20 PM



### When

**Wednesday, February 15th, 2023**  
Presentation: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

### Where

**Michael Baker International Office**  
700 Huger Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

### Lunch\* Provider

No Name Deli

### Contact

**Lydia Mignogna**  
Call: (803) 873-9703  
Email: [lmignogna@brwncald.com](mailto:lmignogna@brwncald.com)

## In-Person Presentation and Luncheon

Speaker

**Jonathan Thrasher**

With

**S&ME**

presenting on

## What Should Designers Know About Special Inspections?

**Register Here!**

**Members: \$15**  
**Non-Members: \$20**

*\*We will accept payment at the door, but lunch will not be guaranteed if you do not register by at least noon on Tuesday, January 17th.*

### **Speaker Bio**

Jonathan Thrasher is a licensed professional engineer with over 19 years of experience in the Geotechnical Engineering and Special Inspections fields and is the Construction Services Operations Manager for S&ME's Greenville and Spartanburg offices. During his career, he has worked throughout the southeast on a range of projects from small commercial projects to major roadways and multi-state pipelines. He currently serves as an Advocacy Captain for ASCE representing South Carolina and is a member of the Society's State Government Relations and Grassroots Committee.

### **Presentation Abstract**

What is the history and purpose of special inspections? What are the designers', building officials' and testing agency roles in each of them? What role does the Geotechnical Engineer have in inspections and more generally during construction? How does the Special Inspector's role tie in with the designers' in successful project execution? In this presentation, we will answer these questions and talk about what Special Inspectors wish others knew about our responsibilities that would help with successful execution of projects.

### **President's Pen**



**February 2023 – Celebrating Engineers**

*Theo Deligiannidis, ASCE Midlands Branch President*

Greetings everyone. As you all are aware, National Engineers Week is coming up February 19 - 25. My hope is at some point, all of us have pondered the importance of "passing the baton". The education outreach opportunities to promote our industry are everywhere, not just in February, and I strongly encourage us talking to kids of any age about how great it is to be a civil engineer. Given our current workforce labor shortage, it makes reaching out even more important.

I know if I didn't have influences from the engineering industry (not just civil) explaining what we do and how it can be a fulfilling career and so meaningful for our communities, heck I may have ended up being a mathematician (nothing wrong with that) or broadcasting sports somewhere (yes that's true).

Back to ASCE business. In January, we had 4 of our Board members – **Grace Porter, Ryan Chmielewski, Lydia Mignogna, and Meghan Franco** – attend the annual ASCE ERYMC Conference in Charlotte. They had a great experience and learned some lessons for how we can continue to strengthen our branch. They were also formally recognized for the national award we received for our branch website [www.ascemidlandsbranchsc.org](http://www.ascemidlandsbranchsc.org). Thanks to these 4 for representing Midlands Branch.



*Midlands Branch Board members attending the ERYMC conference in Charlotte, NC.  
Left to Right: Ryan Chmielewski, Meghan Franco, Grace Porter, Lydia Mignogna.*

We'd like to welcome our newest Board member, Kevin Morgan of Schnabel Engineering. Thank you to Kevin for joining our team, and we look forward to working with you.

Coming up, Midlands Branch has an interesting lineup of monthly lunch and learns, including a half-day joint conference with APWA on May 17, which is just prior to our ASCE Midlands summer break. Also, be on the lookout for information for our spring YM social event.

A friendly reminder to renew your ASCE membership for 2023 if you have not done so already. Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you all next week at Michael Baker International.



*Theo Deligiannidis, ASCE Midlands Branch President*

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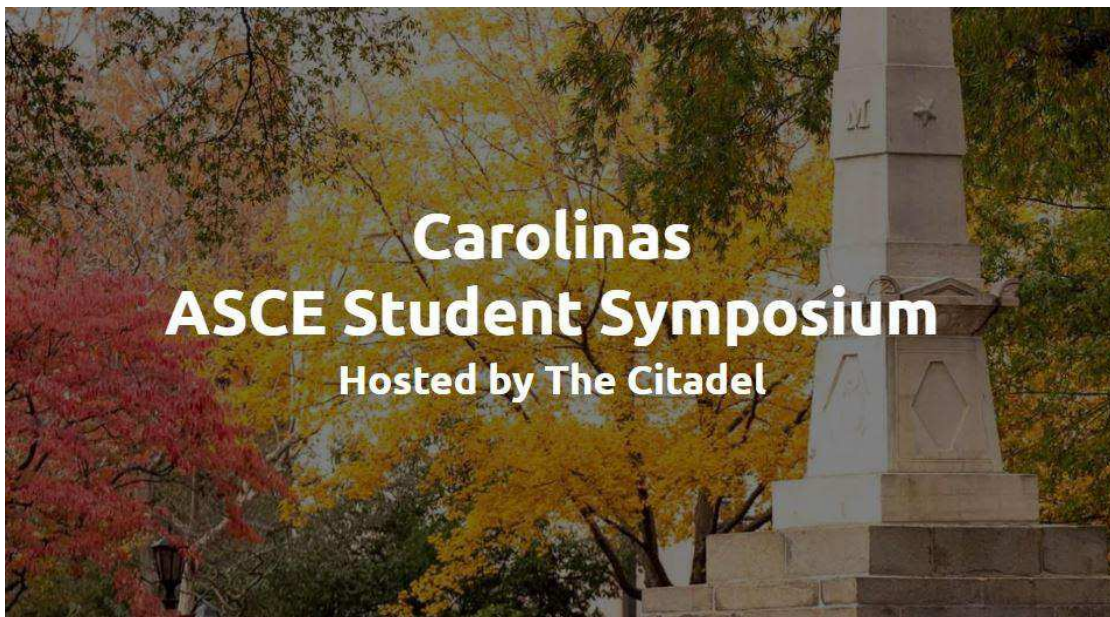
**Thank you to S&ME for sponsoring this month's Presentation & Luncheon!**



**ASCE Midlands Branch Announcements**

## Carolinas Conference for ASCE Students

**LOOKING FOR SPONSORS AND JUDGES!**



The **ASCE 2023 Carolinas Student Symposium** will be held on **April 13-15, 2023** at **The Citadel**.

Student Chapter Registration: [Click Here](#)

**Job Posting Opportunity**



If your company would like to **post a job** on the ASCE Midlands branch website, we will **advertise** the posting in our monthly newsletter.

*There are currently no eligibility requirements, but we always encourage active participation from your team in our Branch activities to maximize your opportunities.*

Please email  
**Meghan Franco** at  
[meghan.franco@mbakerintl.com](mailto:meghan.franco@mbakerintl.com)  
with any inquiries or to express interest.



**Are you or someone you know interested in presenting a project, technology, or other topic at our monthly meetings?**

## If so, let us know!

Please contact Lydia Mignogna, ASCE Midlands Branch Newsletter Editor, to express interest or for more information:

**Lydia Mignogna**  
[lmignogna@brwncald.com](mailto:lmignogna@brwncald.com)

## ASCE Midlands Branch Board Members 2022-2023

## Congratulations

to Grace Porter, President Elect, for obtaining her Professional Engineering license!!!



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**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CHAIR**  
Kevin Morgan, P.E.  
*Schnabel Engineering*

Contact information and photo coming soon.



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ASCE Midlands Branch | [Website](#)



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