

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

9:00AM – 5:00PM

Executive Peer Group Meeting *(Invitation only)*

11:30AM – 5:00PM

GBA Board of Directors Meeting *(Invitation only)*

6:00PM – 8:00PM

Board of Directors Dinner *(Invitation only)*

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

8:00AM – 10:00AM

Next Gen Revolution, Multigenerational Leadership Workshop

(optional workshop/additional fee)

Jeff Gross, Chief Empowerment Officer, Gro-Nova

We are in the middle of the Great Retirement. There are over 75 million Baby Boomers leaving the workforce by 2030 being backfilled by Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z. By 2025, 75% of the workforce will be Millennials. There will be a shift in new generational workforce priorities and needs that will change how business will be done. Understanding the unique, and not so unique, multigenerational needs will help create a culture of employee well-being, retention, and engagement for all generations.

In this workshop you will learn:

- The Great Retirement Impacts
- The Unique and Not So Unique Needs of the Next Gen Revolution
- How to Meet the Changing Needs of the New Workforce
- How to Create a Multigenerational Productive and Empowering Culture

8:00AM – 11:00AM

Executive Geoprofessional Women Alliance *(Invitation only)*

9:00AM – 10:00AM

Committee Leadership Meeting: Committee Chairs and Board of Director Liaisons

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Committee Meetings

1. Business Technology Committee
2. CoMET Business Committee
3. Legal Affairs Committee
4. Multimedia Delivery Committee
5. Peer Review Committee
6. Resource Collaboration Committee

12:00PM – 1:15PM

First-time Attendee Luncheon *(Invitation only)*

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025 *(Continued)*

1:30PM – 2:30PM

GBA | Terra Joint Board of Directors Meeting

1:30PM – 3:30PM

Committee Meetings

1. Business Practices Committee
2. Emerging Issues & Trends Committee
3. Inclusion Advancement Committee
4. Environmental Business Committee
5. Geotechnical Business Committee

2:30PM – 3:30PM

Second Mountain Peer Group Meeting *(Invitation only)*

3:30PM – 4:30PM

Committee Chronicles: Tales of Excellence

4:45PM – 5:45PM

Book Club: The Ideal Team Player by Patrick M. Lencioni

6:00PM – 7:00PM

Guest | Spouse Reception

7:00PM – 9:00PM

Networking Reception | Dinner

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025

7:00AM – 7:45AM

Networking Breakfast

7:00AM – 7:45AM

Council of Fellows Breakfast & Meeting

8:00AM – 8:20AM

Opening Remarks, Business Meeting and Introductions

8:20AM – 9:20AM

Thriving in the Tech Age: AI & the Changing Role of Consulting Engineers

KP Reddy, Founder & CEO Shadow Ventures

The AI revolution is here, poised to upend every industry in its wake. But how will this new technology actually change the engineering profession? In the face of algorithms and machine learning, intangibles that are uniquely human - skills like creativity, adaptability, and leadership - will be the clear drivers for growth. After synthesizing hundreds of conversations with AEC executives, KP Reddy will present a roadmap for the skills required by employees in the future to thrive and show how executives can lead their companies in creating amazing enterprise value.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 *(Continued)*

9:00AM – 10:30AM

Guest | Spouse Breakfast

9:20AM – 9:40AM

Break | Visit With Sponsors

9:40AM – 10:30AM

6 Keys to Building a Championship Engineering Firm

June Jewell, CPA, AEC Business Solutions

Today's engineering firms are faced with many challenges including labor shortages, commoditization of engineering services, and rapidly advancing technologies. To be competitive and highly profitable, it is critical to have a clear strategy that addresses all these challenges, and have it guide your decisions and employee behavior.

In this presentation, June Jewell will present six strategies to ensure you can not only compete but have a winning competitive advantage in your markets:

1. Empowering project managers
2. Creating a culture of excellence and accountability
3. Selecting better clients
4. Leveraging innovative processes and systems
5. Implementing a clear strategy that drives decisions and behavior
6. Know and communicate your value

10:30AM – 10:45AM

Break | Visit With Sponsors

10:45AM – 11:30AM

How Field Notes are Used as Evidence

Michaela Brewster, CPG, Principal, Terracon

Chuck A. Gregory, P.E., F.GBA, Senior Principal, Terracon

James Hamilton, Esq., P.E., Senior Consultant, GAI Consultants, Inc.

Keith F. Mobley, P.E., G.E., President, Northern Geotechnical Engineering - Terra Firma Testing

Bryce W. Moore, Director of Construction Services, Blackburn Consulting

Tiffany Vorhies, NACE CIP-2, PMP, Vice President and Director of Project Management, SME

In this skit, the GBA audience will experience example deposition scenarios highlighting ways in which field documentation and critical communications from field staff can become significant pieces of evidence when lawsuits occur. We will explore a hypothetical scenario that combines many lessons learned for a relatable storyline that applies to all disciplines within the geoprofessions. Presenters collaborating from within the GBA Environmental, Geotechnical, Construction Materials and Testing, and Legal Affairs committees will highlight areas where small mistakes can lead to big consequences, and how GBA materials and best practices can help protect your firm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 *(Continued)*

11:00AM – 3:00PM

Guest Activity: Savannah Trolley Tour & Lunch at the Olde Pink House

(Optional activity/additional fee)

Guests are invited to participate in a 75-minute private open-air trolley tour of one of the most culturally rich and historically significant cities in the country. Soak in the picturesque streets, grand gardens, ancient oaks, parks filled with stunning fountains, and the extraordinary architecture as the professional guide shares their history and significance.

Following the tour, you will enjoy a three-course lunch at the Olde Pink House, Savannah's only 18th Century Mansion and the star of Savannah's Historic District.

- Trolley pick-up at hotel: 11:00am
- Tour 11:00am to 12:15pm
- Lunch: 12:30pm to 2:30pm
- Return to the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort at your leisure via the [Savannah Belles Ferry](#)
 - Talk a short walk (less than 10-minutes) between the Olde Pink House and the City Hall Landing.
 - Take the free [Savannah Belles Ferry](#) to the Trade Center Landing located in between the Trade Center and the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort.

11:30AM – 1:00PM

Networking Lunch

11:30AM – 1:00PM

Terra Insurance Shareholder Meeting and Lunch

1:00PM – 1:10PM

Business Snapshot Summary

Dori Ross, P.E., Sr. Vice President of Client Services, Sanborn, Head & Associates, Inc.

For more than 20 years, GBA's Business Practices Committee has invited member-firms to participate in a brief qualitative survey on their businesses, the state of the economy, and the greater geoprofessional industry. Dori will share the most recent survey results and review important trends to help you assess how your firm is performing relative to others in the nation and provide important trends you can use as you plan for a healthy and robust future where everyone succeeds together in championing excellence in geoprofessional consulting.

1:10PM – 2:00PM

Building Community: Internally and Externally

Jeff Gross, Chief Empowerment Officer, Gro-Nova

Building community internally and externally goes hand-in-hand in both serving your employees and the local community. The benefits are many and creating a culture of service creates long lasting and meaningful relationships for all. This presentation will review 1) Why Serve Your Community, 2) Benefits of Serving Your Community and 3) How to Serve Your Community.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 *(Continued)*

2:00PM – 2:15PM

Break | Visit With Sponsors

2:15PM – 2:50PM

Hutchinson Island Ferry Landing Bulkhead Collapse

Guoming Lin, Ph.D., G.E., BC.GE., *Vice President | Sr. Consultant, Terracon*

This presentation focuses on the critical infrastructural challenges caused by the bulkhead collapse of the ferry landing on Hutchinson Island in Savannah, Georgia. The ferry landing between the Savannah Convention Center and Westin Hotel experienced movements in the morning of June 18, 2022, resulting in a substantial crack in the brick-paved plaza. Guoming Lin was called in by the City of Savannah to assist the emergency response. This presentation will reconstruct the progressive failure process and emergency response, discuss findings in the investigation, and repair design considerations.

2:50PM – 3:10PM

President's Annual Report, Recognition of 2024-2025 Board of Directors, Elections, and Remarks

3:10PM – 3:25PM

Break | Visit With Sponsors

3:25PM – 5:00PM

Business Round Table Sessions & End of Day Announcements

GBA will host two rounds of business discussions where you can select a topic that is of interest to you. Each facilitator-led discussion will last 35 minutes with a break in between allowing you time to switch to another table for participation in a second topic.

This is a great opportunity to learn from the experiences and best practices of geoprofessional colleagues as a facilitator leads each group as you focus on problem-solving and strategy development through a friendly peer discussion.

6:00PM – 6:30PM

Cocktail Reception

6:30PM – 8:30PM

Recognition & Awards Banquet

Join us for a cocktail reception followed by dinner where we will recognize the contributions made by members of our association and the profession during this annual awards celebration. Honorees include member firms who support our association through active engagement, individuals who are leaders in our communities, organizations, and the association.

In addition, the ceremonial presentation of the President's Gavel to Guy Marcozzi, P.E., D.GE, LEED AP BD+C, F.ASCE will be followed by brief remarks by President Teresa L. Peterson, P.E., C.M.C., LEED AP O&M, ENV SP and past president Guy Marcozzi.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

7:00AM - 7:45AM

Networking Breakfast

8:00AM – 8:10AM

Announcements

8:10AM – 9:10AM

Teamwork and Collaboration: 5 Components of Extraordinary Teams

Lee Rubin, *Performance Consultant to Corporate America & Collegiate Sports Organizations*

Machines are evaluated based on the output of the entire unit, not the impressiveness of their individual parts. Extraordinary teams, like great machines, require certain components that hold their pieces together. While most organizations focus exclusively on building the skills of their individual members, elite organizations invest in the “stuff” that transforms a collection of talented individuals into extraordinary, machine-like teams. This keynote is packed with insights, humor, and tools to help listeners take their respective teams to a higher level.

9:00AM – 10:00AM

Guest Breakfast

9:10AM – 9:30AM

Break | Visit With Sponsors

9:30AM – 10:20AM

Empowering Your Guardians: A Blueprint for Strategic Leadership

Dallis Fontenot, *Executive Vice President, Engineered Structures, Inc. (ESI)*

This presentation draws on Dallis’ journey from executive assistant to executive vice president at a billion-dollar construction company.

Overcoming numerous obstacles, Dallis has learned to leverage CliftonStrengths to maximize her leadership potential and unlock the potential of her teams. Embracing one’s natural talents and strengths as a superpower is crucial for self-awareness and discovering one’s greatest potential. This presentation will guide the audience in identifying their strengths and those of their team members to build a cohesive and effective organization.

Dallis will share insights on discovering powerful partnerships and creating a personal board of directors, including roles such as coach, mentor, complementary partner, role model, expert, and accountability partner—akin to the diverse team dynamics of the Guardians of the Galaxy. Each member’s unique strengths contribute to extraordinary results.

Additionally, Dallis will discuss empowering employees to be guardians of their roles. Leaders can provide resources, tools, and autonomy, fostering ownership and accountability. This approach encourages individuals to take calculated risks in pursuit of excellence, promoting a culture of sustainability and success.

Join Dallis to unlock your leadership potential, harness your natural superpowers, and inspire those around you to reach new heights.

10:20AM – 10:35AM

Break | Visit With Sponsors

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025 *(Continued)*

10:35AM – 11:35AM

Purpose. Performance. Impact.

Justin Wren, Founder of Fight for the Forgotten and Elite MMA Fighter turned Global Humanitarian

Justin shares his personal story from humble beginnings in rural Texas and a childhood shaped by relentless bullying. He eventually rose to mixed martial arts stardom, fighting in front of thousands in person and millions around the world, only to lose it all to drugs and depression. But he fought back again, first on behalf of other victims of bullying, and later, through an almost unbelievable turn of events, on behalf of the Pygmy people of the Congo and Uganda. A three-time survivor of malaria, Justin has fought opponents both large and small throughout his life, and along the way he has evolved into an astonishing force for good in the world.

Justin takes audiences through an exploration of the power of service, the profound difference we can make in the lives of others, and the ripple effect that extends far beyond what we can imagine – including the transformation that occurs within ourselves when we choose to live purposefully and serve selflessly. He also unravels the secrets of the overcomer's mindset, the unyielding spirit that separates the victors from the defeated. Audiences will learn how to transform pain into fuel, setbacks into comebacks, and doubts into unwavering belief—in order to overcome obstacles and win this fight called life.

11:35AM – 11:45AM

Business Meeting | Closing Remarks

11:45AM – 12:30PM

Networking Lunch

11:45AM – 1:30PM

Board of Directors & Committee Chairs Lunch & Meeting

2:30PM – 5:00PM

Stay & Play Activity: Savannah Riverboat Cruise

(Included w/full registration fee/additional fee if a la carte registrant)

Join us for a 90-minute cruise where you can sit back and relax as the captain share intriguing tales and historic facts about Savannah's modern port and the ships that visit from all over the world. The cruise will make its way down river to Old Fort Jackson, home of one of the largest and oldest original artillery pieces in the country. You will want to take advantage of the great photo opportunities of Savannah's historic riverfront and skyline.

A full bar and appetizers are available onboard for purchase.

- **Depart** Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort anytime between 12:00pm and 2:00pm
 - On your own take the free [Savannah Belles Ferry](#) from the Trade Center Landing located between the Trade Center and the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort to the City Hall Landing
 - The George Queen Riverboat will be docked near the City Hall Landing
- **Boarding time:** 2:30pm
- **Cruise time:** 3:30pm to 5:00pm
- **Return** to Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort
 - At your leisure via the [Savannah Belles Ferry](#) to the Trade Center Landing.