

## Section Member Meeting

**November 07, 2024**

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

In-Person Meeting

Location

**Courtyard Banquets**

3s200 State Route 59

Warrenville, IL 60555

<http://www.courtyardbanquets.com>

Schedule

05:30 - 06:00 Check-in / Networking

06:00 - 06:30 First Presentation

06:30 - 07:30 Dinner

07:45 - 08:30 Second Presentation

Please See our Website to Register for the dinner.

**Registration closes at the end of day (midnight) three days before the meeting to give the venue enough time to order food and the section volunteers enough time to prepare meeting credentials. If you do not see the Register Now button, registration has been closed for the meeting. Walk-ins are welcome, though we cannot guarantee a meal.**

**"THE ONLY LIMIT TO OUR REALIZATION OF TOMORROW WILL BE OUR DOUBTS OF TODAY." FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT**

Meeting Schedule	1-2
Letter from the Chair	
Speaker Information	3-4
2025 PEP Performance	
Excellent Program Update	5
Training Information	6
Call for Speakers	
My ASQ	7-8
SLC Meeting Information	9
Certification Information	10
Future Meeting, Scholarship and Plant Tour Information	11
Pay It Forward	12
Section Leadership Information	13-14
ASQ Information	15



Please indicate vegetarian option and any other needs as the answer to the first question on your reservation ticket.

Friends and colleagues are always welcome.

If you are paying in advance for multiple people, please register each person as a member or non-member/guest. Note the name(s) of the person/people for whom you are paying as the answer to the first question on your reservation ticket.

#### Pricing

There is no charge for the meeting itself. The price applies only if you choose to purchase a meal. Please choose the appropriate ticket when registering.

- \$35 per meal - members and non-members
- Prepaid with a 5-meal punch card - see terms and conditions (below).
- \$150 - purchase a 5-meal punch card for use now or later - see terms and conditions on our website.
- Complimentary meals for new and unemployed members - see terms and conditions on our website.
- Students - we offer students a discount on their meal - see terms and conditions on our website.
- . Online, payment-in-advance is not available. Pay at the door.
- Veterans - we offer US military veterans a discount on their meal - see terms and conditions on our website. Online, payment-in-advance is not available. Pay at the door.

#### Payment Options

- In advance:
- MasterCard
- Visa
- Discover
- American Express
- 

Our registration system is not connected to the ASQ system for making on-line payments. If you are paying on-line in advance of the meeting, please complete your registration on this site before visiting <https://app.memberplanet.com/#/event/asqfoxvalleysection/202411asqsectionmembermeeting> to make your payment.

- At the door:
- Cash
- Check
- 5-meal Punch Card



## Letter from the Chair

October 2024

Fox Valley Section 1208 Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying the Fall and the last days of nice weather. I'm especially looking forward to the Fall colors.

Our November meeting date will be shifted due to voting Tuesday. The meeting will be on Thursday to give everyone the opportunity to vote.

I'm currently investigating the candidates and approaching it with an audit mindset – keeping an open mind, investigating the candidates' positions, learning about their backgrounds and history; then comparing that information vs. expectations to determine which candidates line up the closest. Okay, it's not a perfect analogy, but what I've learned as an auditor is helpful in examining the candidates.

Alright, back to the November meeting. Our speaker will be presenting on "History of AI and Its Impact/Opportunities for Quality Professionals". The meeting will be our first in-person meeting of the season and we hope to see you there. Looking forward to seeing returning friends and meeting new members or first-time attendees!

Dani Hestermann

Chair, Section 1208



# Biography

Andrew Niess, PhD is Senior Product Manager at tms, where he spearheads the development of new, AI-powered marketing technology solutions.

Pre-dinner Meeting:

## **Why Quality Pros Should Not Use AI (And Several Reasons They Should) - Part 1**

Andrew Niess, PhD  
Senior Product Manager, tms

In this presentation, you will gain a foundational understanding of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI with an emphasis on the Quality professional's perspective. We will delve into AI's limitations pertaining to the field of quality management. At the same time, we will identify practical opportunities for integrating AI into your work to enhance processes and outcomes. By the end of this session, you will be equipped to make more informed decisions about leveraging AI technologies in your professional practice.

---

Post-dinner Meeting:

## **Why Quality Pros Should Not Use AI (And Several Reasons They Should) - Part 2**

Andrew Neiss, PhD  
Senior Product Manager, tms

In this presentation, you will gain a foundational understanding of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI with an emphasis on the Quality professional's perspective. We will delve into AI's limitations pertaining to the field of quality management. At the same time, we will identify practical opportunities for integrating AI into your work to enhance processes and outcomes. By the end of this session, you will be equipped to make more informed decisions about leveraging AI technologies in your professional practice.



## 2025 PEP (Performance Excellence Program)

The ASQ is a global organization of quality professionals who engage and solve problems in business, government, engineering and other fields to reduce cost and improve quality. Each member of ASQ has the opportunity to associate with a local Section or a Technical community or both. Leadership of Sections are raised by the support of their members and are charged to be good stewards of their organizations to the benefit of their members. The sense of community, inclusiveness, opportunity for education and advancement are major factors in their work. The activities and deliverables of ASQ's Sections and Technical Communities establish and reinforce ASQ's position as the thought leader and community of choice and significantly enhance ASQ offerings to members and customers.

As the adage goes: "What gets measured, gets improved." And so, the ASQ Performance Excellence Program (PEP) is intended to celebrate the accomplishments and recognize ASQ Sections and Technical Communities. ASQ outlines criteria for recognition of the efforts and excellent outcomes each year. The PEP program builds on ASQ society-wide strategic objectives, minimum operating requirements for Sections and Technical Communities and the tools and processes provided by ASQ for leadership. PEP metrics were first introduced in 2020 and are intended to provide an objective evaluation of excellent management performance. Assessments of Excellent Performance by a Section or Technical Community goes beyond the minimum requirements of the organization. Only Sections and Technical Communities that are compliant with the minimum requirements of the Member Unit Operating Agreement are eligible for PEP recognition. Excellent performance is demonstrated by the initiatives, events, services, and offerings provided that advance the practices of professionals. These advancements are in alignment with and help to achieve ASQ Society strategic goals. They may be delivered in many forms and are not limited to improvements of past models.

The Fox Valley section of the ASQ is participating again this year in the PEP program, to the benefit of our members. Through use of the criteria, we hope to demonstrate our work to achieve best practices and advance continuous improvement in the best of the ASQ's values.

Prepared for the Fox Valley Newsletter  
Mike Vella  
Chair Elect



ASQ Fox Valley Section 1208  
Training Information

**ASQ Fox Valley Section 12 Training Courses Remaining This Year.**

1. **Certified Quality Auditor (CQA) Exam Prep Course**
2. **Certified Quality Engineer (CQE) Exam Prep Course**
3. **Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB) Exam Prep Course**
4. **Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/OE) Exam Prep Course**
5. **Project Management Accelerated Certificate Course**
6. **Statistical Process Control Accelerated Certificate Course**
7. **Lean Six Sigma Accelerated Certificate Course**
8. **Continuous Process Improvement Accelerated Certificate Course**
9. **Statistical Process Control Workshop**
10. **Project Management Workshop**
11. **Lean Six Sigma workshop**
12. **Continuous Process Improvement Workshop**

**See our website for the fees and tentative schedule.**

**Contact [education@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:education@asq-foxvalley.org) with questions.**



## Call for Speakers

Our section is actively seeking speakers/presenters for our dinner/meeting programs and we need your help. If you have:

A success story, case study, or new technique in the field of Quality

A failure story with analysis

Practical application and technical implementation of quality tools, methodologies, and techniques

Strategies for building and sustaining a culture of quality

Real applications, real results, and real solutions based on quality principles or theory

.....we want to hear from you!

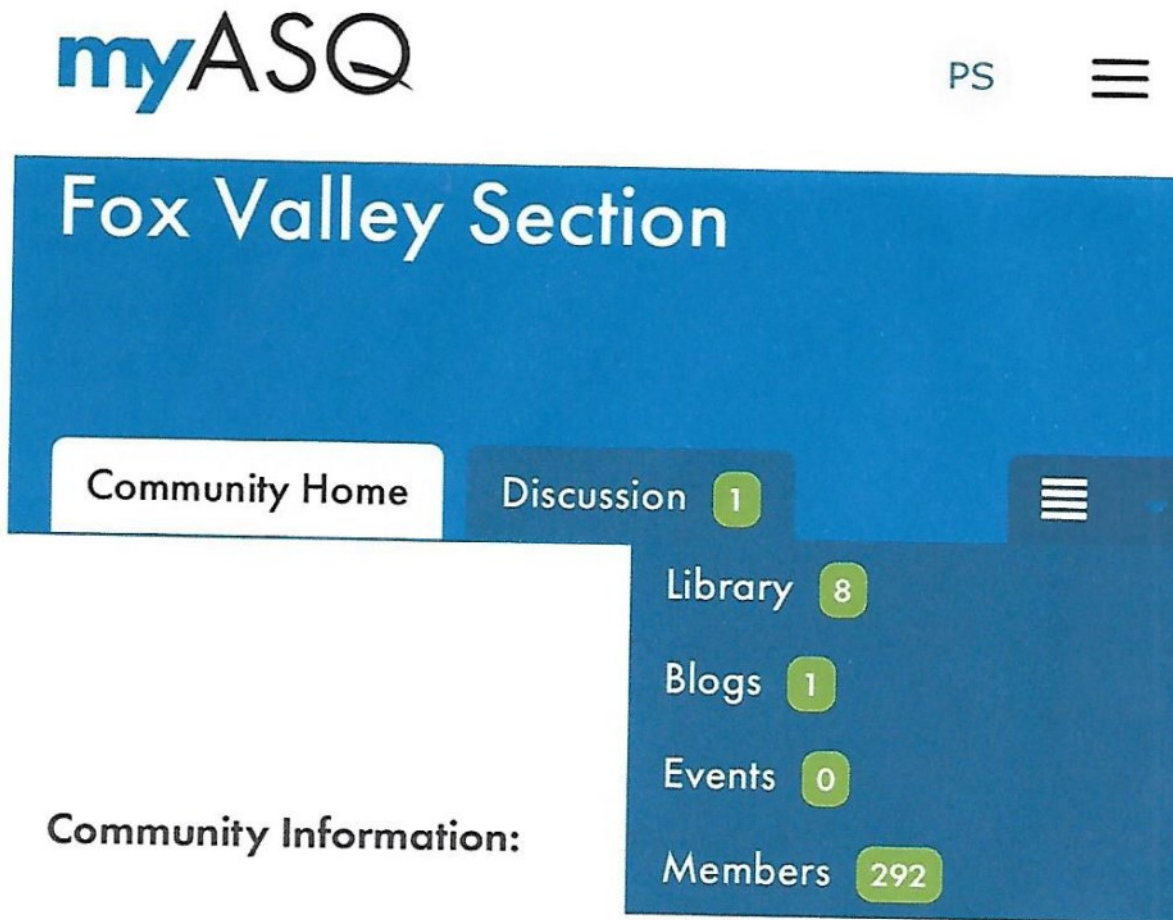
We are seeking speakers/presenters to share their knowledge and experience in any area of the *Quality Body of Knowledge (QBOK)*, including quality principles/tactics, technical topics, standards, real-world case studies, “war stories”, successes/failures, examples/stories, application of tools and hands-on experience. Other topics and subjects could be in the area of personal/professional enrichment and development, insights and subject matter relevance.

If you are interested, please submit your name, contact information and topic. If you know of a colleague or someone who is a “subject matter expert”, recognized as an industry leader, or has knowledge of a subject/topic our members would be interested in, please submit their name, contact information, and their topic or subject knowledge.

Submit all suggestions via our website, at <http://asq-foxvalley.org/>

**We seek articles members may have written for a magazine or journal. If a member is making a presentation at a seminar or conference, we would like to list it . They can be forwarded to : [newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org)**

Items can be found in the Fox Valley section of “My ASQ” .



Section 1208 includes the western, southwestern, and northwestern suburbs of Chicago, Illinois.

For more information about this section, please visit <https://asq-foxvalley.org>.

To get a glimpse of what our section members are doing to contribute to their geographic and professional communities, visit our [Section Members in the News](#) library.



# Workshops, Certificate Programs, and Certification Prep Web Interactive

## ASQ Fox Valley Section Web Interactive Exam Preparation Courses

This is still the perfect time to receive customized, flexible, and virtual ASQ Training for your next certification! More and more people are getting ASQ certified in the Fox Valley Section! Now may be a great time to invest in your career development with a flexible Prep Course taught by our own Education Chair, Chuck Gates. Chuck brings over 40 years of experience in various quality management roles, and he teaches Quality Management and ASQ Certification courses to several colleges and businesses in Illinois. Reach out to the Education Chair for more details.

Please review the Training Catalog on our website -<https://www.asq-foxvalley.org> and select the Education tab for more information regarding the schedule of courses and workshops.

Web Interactive Courses can be scheduled on flexible dates and times. Participants must purchase the study materials and pay for Certification Exams.

The Fox Valley Section of ASQ welcomes you and anyone interested in volunteering their time, to attend one of our Section Leadership Committee (SLC) meetings. It is during these meetings where decisions and updates are managed for the section. All feedback and participation are appreciated. For more information or if interested in attending a meeting, please contact [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org).

Date 2023 6:30pm	Location
November 19	Virtual
December 17	Virtual

# UPCOMING CERTIFICATION EXAM DATES

Please check exam dates & deadlines carefully as we will not make exceptions for late applications. All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. US CST on the date specified.

## Computer-Based Testing Dates

ASQ certification examinations are delivered by ASQ's testing partner, Prometric. The examination scheduling instructions in your eligibility letter will direct you to a section of Prometric's website, where you can select and schedule your examination date and location.

### ODD MONTH EXAM

[CQT](#), [CQI](#), [CRE](#), [CFSQA](#), [CMDA](#), [CMQ/OE](#), [CSSBB](#), [CSSYB](#), [CSQP](#)

November 1 - 30, 2024	October 13, 2024
January 1 - 31, 2025	December 8, 2024
March 1 - 31, 2025	February 9, 2025

The [Certified Master Black Belt \(CMBB\)](#) certification exam is available twice a year, in the July & November testing windows.

### EVEN-MONTH EXAMS

[CQA](#), [CQE](#), [CQIA](#), [CSQE](#), [CSSGB](#), [CQPA](#), [CCT](#), [CPGP](#), [CCQM](#)

Testing Window	Application Deadline
December 1 - 31, 2024	November 10, 2024
February 1 - 28, 2025	January 12, 2025

**Contact our Education Chairperson –  
Charles Gates for training classes.**

**Please review the Training Catalog on our website -<https://www.asq-foxvalley.org>**



## 2024 Future Meeting Dates and Locations

DATE	Location	Speaker	Topic
November 7th	Courtyard Banquets	Andrew Niess	History of AI and it's Impact/ Opportunities for Quality Professionals.
December 3	TBD	Mathew Kroll	Establishing Continuous Improvement: getting the basics right.

## Watch this section for upcoming Scholarship information.

### We are always looking for opportunities for Plant Tours.

Please contact [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org) for more details and assistance to pursue this opportunity.

#### What are we looking for?

Companies that would like to have 25-30 pairs of Quality eyes visit their operations for networking and dialogue on Quality applications, tactical ideas and new exposure of the great companies in the Fox Valley Area.

#### What do we need?

Fox Valley Section members that can sponsor a tour at their company or business site.

#### What is our goal?

Provide a Quality networking and educational event that is a win-win opportunity for both Fox Valley ASQ Section 1208 membership and companies in the Fox Valley Area.

#### What is our target area?

Most of our section's members work or live between Elgin to the north, Yorkville in the south, Maywood to the east, and Dekalb to the west. We believe we will get the best turnout for a tour in this area.

#### What is needed for a tour?

Tours are most productive when there are Quality contacts working at the company to assist with completing the details. It is best if it is an area that doesn't require extensive safety gear or high security restrictions. New projects, new ventures, new equipment and continuous improvement implementations are great opportunities for Quality feedback and networking exchanges. Early evening tours allow for good participation for our membership who work during the day.

#### What is the suggested layout of a tour (actual time frame is determined by the companies needs)

- 15 minutes introduction with organizational staff.
- 45 minutes of guided tour through the areas to be reviewed.
- 30 minutes for snacks and networking.

30-60 minutes of questions and dialogue on quality ideas and suggestions.

Contact [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org) to pursue this opportunity.



# Section Leadership Volunteers - Pay It Forward or Pay It Back

The Fox Valley Section Leadership Committee (SLC) is comprised of member-volunteers who work to provide services to section member, including creating educational opportunities, finding speakers for section member meetings, publishing newsletters, providing networking opportunities, selecting scholarships award-ees, and doing the behind-the-scenes work needed to deliver these services. We welcome new committee members and chairs, and the new ideas they bring. **We have multiple open positions, which need to be filled to continue to provide these services.**

Becoming a part of the SLC is an opportunity to get involved with ASQ, work with a great group of people, and have some fun. Benefits include seeing your ideas become real, learning, networking, expanding your resume, and earning recertification units.

There is a position for the interests, skills, and experience you have. Some roles are member-facing, others work in the background. Performing the mandatory functions of most roles takes a few hours a month on average. For a few hours more, you can make a greater impact by improving existing services or developing new ones.

A current list of committees and officers is on the [leadership page](#). If you would like to learn more or would like to sit in on a (virtual) leadership committee meeting, please contact Dani Hestermann, section chair, at [chair@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair@asq-foxvalley.org) or to [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org).

## Section Leadership

Chair **Danielle (Dani) Hestermann** [chair@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Oversees the management of the section and presides over Section Leadership Committee meetings.

Chair-Elect **Mike Vella** [chair-elect@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair-elect@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Assists the chair in leading the section. The chair-elect generally assumes the role of Chair when the Chair's term ends.

Works with the SLC to develop, implement, manage, and report on the Process Excellence Program (PEP) business plan and budget for the section.

Identifies section award candidates and develops methods to recognize section members and others who have contributed to the section, ASQ, or Quality as a whole.

Secretary **Wayne Tollefsen** [secretary@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:secretary@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Records and maintains all meeting minutes.

Schedules SLC meetings and reserves conference bridge as needed.

Treasurer **John Goerner** [treasurer@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:treasurer@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Oversees section funds. Maintain accurate section financial records. Reports on financial condition of the section at times directed by the bylaws and policies and procedures.

Arrangements **Jeff Seyl** [arrangements@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:arrangements@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Oversees arrangements for all regular meetings of the section and other special programs and conferences as assigned by the Section Leadership Committee (SLC) or other committee chairs.

Chair-emeritus **Mohammad Khan** [chair-emeritus@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair-emeritus@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 As the most senior member of the Section Leadership committee, advises the SLC chair, leadership committee, and other offices and chairs as requested.

Education **Charles Gates** [education@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:education@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Creates and oversees all education related activities.

Immediate Past Chair **Bob Kutter** [past-chair@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:past-chair@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Assists the incoming chair.

Leads ad-hoc committees as assigned.

Internet **Alan Berow** [internet@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:internet@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Designs, implements, and maintains the structure of the section on-line services within limits set by ASQ and service providers.

Maintains credentials and access control for section's on-line assets

Maintains on-line content as directed.

Trains other SLC members in developing and maintaining content for section's on-line assets, and acts as their backup

Membership **Mohammad A. H. Khan** [membership@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:membership@asq-foxvalley.org)

Drives section recruitment and retention efforts. Develop and implements plans to maximize membership renewal and encourage interested persons to join ASQ. Upholds Society bylaws, policies and procedures, and section operating agreement.



Newsletter

**Paul Suffredin**

[newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org)

Creates and delivers the section newsletter. Establishes and adhere to a publication calendar for the newsletter and share this information with other volunteers who will need to submit content throughout the year.

**Chris Gay**

Nominations

[nominations@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:nominations@asq-foxvalley.org)

Bob Kutter

Identifies candidates for elected positions, manages the election process, and assists in identifying candidates for committee chairs and members in conformance to the ASQ Section Operating Agreement.

**Open**

Programs

[programs@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:programs@asq-foxvalley.org)

Chris Gay

Works with the section leadership committee to set goals/metrics to support the section's management process as they relate to soliciting speakers to match topics, and scheduling/planning of programs, events and activities.

Publicity / Social Media

**Craig Heinze**

[social-media@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:social-media@asq-foxvalley.org)

Promotes ASQ and other quality-related events in value-added media venues. Manages section's social media programs and presence. The goal is to promote awareness and draw new members. This includes scholarship opportunities and recognition, an area typically underutilized by the population at large.

**Renee Webb**

Scholarship

Bob Kutter

[scholarship@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:scholarship@asq-foxvalley.org)

Mohammad A. H. Khan

Student Branch Counselor

**Charles Gates**

[student-branch@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:student-branch@asq-foxvalley.org)

Facilitates student organizations in the creation and operation of ASQ student branches associated with the section. Voice of student branches to the SLC. Coordinates activities between student branches and the section.

Voice of the Customer

**Thomas Kozlowski**

[voc@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:voc@asq-foxvalley.org)

Collects and analyzes voice of the customer data to recommend section programs and services.

# ABOUT ASQ

American Society for Quality (ASQ) is committed to providing enhanced expertise, professional networks, tools, and solutions to help our members advance their products, services, and industries. We provide professional [training](#), [certifications](#), and knowledge to [members globally](#).

ASQ is a global organization with members in more than 130 countries. Headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, we also operate centers in [Latin America](#) and [South Asia](#). Our Society consists of [member-led communities](#) that help members connect with other quality professionals and practitioners, advance their knowledge and careers, and grow as thought leaders.

At ASQ Headquarters, we create the tools and resources and provide the support necessary to help our member leaders continue offering these opportunities. Our magazine [Quality Progress](#), online video series [ASQTV](#), library of [quality resources](#), and [international conferences](#) are all examples of the resources we provide and the chances you have to make a meaningful impact and deliver value to our members and customers.

## Our Mission

ASQ empowers individuals and communities of the world to achieve excellence through quality.

## Our Vision

ASQ will be the thought leader and community of choice for individuals seeking excellence through quality.

## Our Strategic Plan

[ASQ's 2023-2024 Strategic Plan](#) is available to members and customers.

