



PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 16, Philadelphia, PA 19102 Telephone/Reservations: (215) 985-5701 Web site: http://www.asce-philly.org

National ASCE Central Number 1-800-548-ASCE • Toll Free

The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE

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Our 97th Year

May, 2010

UPDATE ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

As you may be aware (and as regularly covered in *THE NEWS*), Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists in Pennsylvania are required to obtain continued professional development (CPD) credit to renew their licenses in 2011. This is effective as of October 1, 2009.

Not to sound like a broken record (those of you under 30 will want to ask an older colleague what this means!), but nothing has happened in Pennsylvania since our last update (February). We will continue to monitor the progress (or lack thereof) of this for your edification. As reported in February, New Jersey is moving forward, but no details have been made available as of presstime.

The ASCE, Phila. Section, however, is not caught in the inertia, and has developed internal guidance on the recognition of PDH's. Starting next season, we will begin to provide sign-in sheets and receipts for members who may need CPD credits for registration in other states. We will also note whether meetings, in our opinion, will NOT meet the requirements for CPD, and this information will be provided in meeting announcements. Our sign-in sheets and receipts will be available for all Section and Technical Group meetings. While we emphasize that this remains a license-holder's primary responsibility for reporting and accounting, we will assist as necessary to help members do this. We will provide more details on our program in the fall.

For those of you patiently waiting for Pennsylvania to do something, we would suggest you contact your Senator and urge that he/she take action on the bill currently in Senate committee. PSPE has a sample letter in the Legislative Action Center section of its website (**www.pspe.org**) that can be used in this regard. Please take action and help yourself and your profession.

We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak.

— Epictetus, Greek philosopher

SPRING SOCIAL

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2010

Hall of Fame Club • Citizens Bank Park

Cocktails 6:00 рм • Dinner 6:30 рм • Meeting 7:30 рм

THE ANNUAL SPRING SOCIAL — PHILLIES FEVER!

At the risk of jinxing the home team and its hot start (and our hopes for a "three-peat" of the pennant, and maybe even more!), the ASCE, Philadelphia Section would like to ride the Phillies' coattails of success. Accordingly, we're going to the Phils' "house," and have scheduled the 2010 **Spring Social** to be conducted at **Citizens Bank Park**.

The Social will be conducted at the Park on **Friday, May 14** in the **Hall of Fame Club**. It will start at 6:00 PM with a cocktail hour, followed by an appetizer/entrée station setup in place of a formal dinner. This will allow for more socializing and networking, appropriate for this informal setting. Some "business" matters, such as the installation of new Section officers, the presentation of Section awards, the recognition of our Delaware Valley Science Fairs awardees, and a vote on the updated Section Constitution, will be featured as well.

There will be guided tours available, offering a unique opportunity to see the Park "behind the scenes" and you might even get your picture and name on the Jumbotron. For those of you who like a little "green" with your Phils red, the Phillie Phanatic will make an appearance to dance with all the women, shine the heads of all men who are folically challenged, razz anyone who professes allegiance to another team (especially the Mets, Yankees and Red Sox), and in general, add the touch to the event that only a big, green mascot can.

The cost of the Social will be \$60 per attendee. **RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MAY 7.** Please send your check for the number of attendees, payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE," to ASCE, Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 16, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Reservations can also be made on the Engineers' Club message center, (215) 985-5701, or via e-mail at **info@asce-philly.org**. You may also electronically reserve through our website (**www.asce-philly.org**) and pay via PayPal, a new service available for this. NO WALK-INS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

We invite all Section members and their guests to attend and thank the current Section officers before we watch them go "outta here!"

...AND THANKS AGAIN TO OUR SPONSORS!

As you have seen, the Section Sponsorship Program was once again popular this season, with 22 firms participating in it. We extend our special and collective THANKS to each sponsor for their financial commitment and support.

There were some added and unadvertised benefits of sponsorship this year, including the continuously-running powerpoint which contains our sponsors' logos during the cocktail hour and dinner portion of Section meetings and the two "new" editions of *THE NEWS* in December and May.

Sponsor logos have also been included in a

special Sponsors section of our website. Additionally, we no longer post employment ads on our website, but we provide direct links to sponsors' sites so prospective employees can review all available and up-to-date positions.

Of course, we'll be contacting current sponsors later this summer to see if they'll go again in 2010-11. We hope the program will be as successful then as well.

If you have an interest in joining our sponsorship program, please contact **Bob** Wright at newseditor@asce-philly.org for more details.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've heard it said before that the key to success is shameless self promotion. I disagree; I believe that the key to success is hard work. But after all the hard work and success of the last 12 months, I am proud to use my final President's Message to toot the ASCE, Philadelphia Section's horn and shamelessly promote our many achievements of this past year.

In October, I laid out the Board's goals for the year: 1) create fun opportunities for networking and socializing; 2) increase the breadth and frequency of technical meetings; 3) organize monthly meetings that are educational and relevant; and 4) improve our member communications. In addition, my own personal agenda included increasing our volunteer participation in order to engage more members and make the Section leadership more inclusive. I hope you will agree that we succeeded on all accounts and generated a lot of positive momentum.

- **Networking & Socializing:** At Section dinner meetings this year, we introduced several fun ice breakers to facilitate networking trivia, brainteasers, and "have you ever" games. The ice breakers were engaging and generated some stiff competition to win the oh-so-fabulous prizes. We have also planned a very social **Spring Social** on **May 14** at **Citizens Bank Park** that will be structured somewhat informally to facilitate networking, and will include tours of the facility and fun with the Phanatic.
- **Technical Groups & Institutes:** Although Pennsylvania's continuing education requirements are still up in the air, our technical groups and Institutes offered 50% more technical meetings this year, including participating in a new twist on our Section dinner meeting a joint dinner followed by four technical breakout sessions. Our PDH committee has also developed a plan to provide "receipts" for attendance at technically-focused meetings that will be rolled out this fall. Membership in our technical group committees increased from 6 to 20. And finally, we are proud to announce the new **Structural Engineering Institute** (SEI) Chapter of Philadelphia!
- Improved Monthly Meetings: Our monthly Section meetings were generally well attended this year, providing both educational and networking opportunities to our members. We organized joint meetings with eight other professional organizations, and we carefully selected our monthly meeting topics to cover a wide array of relevant technical topics and local projects, as well as the national infrastructure report card and how to successfully utilize social networking for professional purposes.
- **Communications:** We completely revamped our communications to include more professional & succinct emails, a web-based subscription service to sign up for emails, a digital newsletter, an updated website with Google calendar, newsletter archives, sponsors' job links, and most recently online meeting reservations!

On top of all this, we have successfully managed our finances during the recession and are safely "in the black." We are also weeks away from completing the first revision of our Section Constitution and Bylaws since 1992.

However, I am most proud of the many volunteers who are helping with the technical groups and Section committees. I issued a call for volunteers in October and tens of you responded, bringing our total number of volunteers to almost 50! Your support and involvement is critical to ensure we have fresh ideas, energy, and a pool of future leaders. The Philadelphia Section of ASCE exists to serve its members and only remains viable through the efforts of our member volunteers. Thank you to all those individuals and companies that have volunteered their time, ideas, and money — we need and appreciate your participation.

So congratulations to our Section, our Board of Directors, and our many volunteers and sponsors for a successful year. I will miss serving you as President but look forward to volunteering alongside all of you for many years to come.

> Sincerely, Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, P.E. President, ASCE, Philadelphia Section

BACK TO THE FUTURE? "R" NUMBERS GOING AWAY

If you ride SEPTA's Regional Rail network, get ready to know your line's name and not its "R" designation. SEPTA will be phasing out the familiar "R" route numbers and renaming the lines after their station terminals as of the schedule changes effective July 25. The colors associated with each line — the R8, for example, is orange on schedules and on system maps — will also be replaced with a gray color for the entire network.

SEPTA hopes the change will eliminate confusion for area visitors and infrequent riders, who sometimes board the wrong train because they do not understand that each line travels to two different directions. This change has been reviewed internally at SEPTA for some time. This change also moves SEPTA away from a European-style regional rail model that emphasizes the possibilities of through-service beyond the Center City tunnel and into outlying neighborhoods and suburbs. The new schedules introduced in July will not make reference to the other side of the old lines

This change will allow SEPTA to route its trains more efficiently and will acknowledge the reality that more and more trains change lines or

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ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2009-10 SEASON

PRESIDENT Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, Flow Science, Inc.

PRESIDENT ELECT Thomas W. Brady, Louis Berger Group

> VICE PRESIDENT Ann M. Tomalavage, Malarkey Consulting, Inc.

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John Zarsky, Pennoni Associates, Inc. ('08-'10)

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President — Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, P.E. Vice President

Flow Science Inc. 1500 Kennedy Blvd. 2 Penn Center, Suite 200 Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 854-6445 kbkavanagh@flowscience.com

Secretary — AnnMarie L. Vigilante, P.E.

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James Markham • Joe Syrnick

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TECHNICAL GROUPS/CHAIRS

Information on the ASCE, Philadelphia Section's Technical Groups is given below. Director **Keith Yamatani** will be coordinating activities of the Groups. If you have any topics that you think would be of interest to the Groups, please feel free to pass this information along to the appropriate Group Chair.

CONSTRUCTION

Dennis MacBride SEPTA 1234 Market Street, 12th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107-3780 215-580-3404 dmacbride@septa.org

DELAWARE VALLEY GEOINSTITUTE

Ara G. Mouradian Gannett Fleming, Inc. 1010 Adams Avenue Audubon, PA 19403 610-650-8101 amouradian@gfnet.com

ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

William J. Mulloy US Army Corps of Engineers Wanamaker Building, 7th Floor 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390 215-656-6583 William.J.Mulloy@usace.army.mil

ENVIRONMENTAL and WATER RESOURCES

Eve D'Onofrio E S Design LLC 128 Regency Dr Norristown, PA 19403-1755 610-630-1660 edonofrio@esdesignllc.com

STRUCTURAL

Dr. Mohiuddin Ali Khan JMT Inc. 1300 Rt. 73 South, Suite 313 Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054 856-778-5517 mohidin@temple.edu

TRANSPORTATION and URBAN DEVELOPMENT

William T. Thomsen Urban Engineers, Inc. 530 Walnut Street, 14th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19106 215-922-8080 wtthomsen@urbanengineers.com

"R" NUMBERS

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head to the depot as they pass through Center City. The hoped-for market of through-riding commuters never materialized after the tunnel was completed, and most through-riders today travel to the Philadelphia International Airport and Trenton. An analysis of Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) survey data shows that about 100 passengers a day travel to Trenton from R7 Chestnut Hill East stations. Only 33 percent of weekday trips travel

NATIONAL WEBSITE REVAMPED

On April 9, ASCE National unveiled its completely revamped Web site. The new www.asce.org has been built with our most important audience in mind — you, the ASCE Member. Knowing the needs of our members are as distinct as their specialties, ASCE created a new site that has something for each of our 144,000+ members.

After more than a year of gathering input and compiling extensive research, ASCE's new Website infrastructure reflects the insights and opinions that members have come to expect when searching for information, including events, technical information, networking opportunities, and more.

What's new that you can do when visiting the Web site:

Find What You Need Quickly and Easily – Three distinct search menus lead you right to the information you're looking for. The top of each page will allow you to browse by topic, search the entire site, and locate a local or technical group near you. Elsewhere, you can search within specific sections. Plus, events such as conferences and continuing education courses have been condensed into one easily searchable calendar.

Promote the Profession – ASCE has captured the visual appeal of the profession by including more photographs, artwork, and video that showcase the ingenuity and beauty of the world that you help build and maintain. Look for larger images and featured stories prominently displayed on the homepage each week.

Connect With Colleagues – Today's Web is interactive and now you have the opportunity to dive into a social media world created just for civil engineers. Build your own profile, then add colleagues into your network, join groups related to your specialty, and catch up on hot issues through ASCE blogs, podcasts, and RSS feeds.

Most importantly the new site has the ability to adapt to the needs of our members now and in the future.

These highlighted features are just the beginning. Every member will find a different reason to visit. Find out what yours will be. See for yourself by visiting the new ASCE Web site at **www.asce.org.**

along the same line past Center City, according to an *Inquirer* article.

The change has been vociferously opposed by University of Pennsylvania Engineering professor (and Section Member) **Vukan Vuchic**, who helped design the current regional rail system. He has maintained that SEPTA never made enough of an effort to promote throughservice as an option for area commuters.

The through-routing of trains and the numbering system were introduced with the opening of the Center City Commuter Rail Connection ("the Tunnel") in 1984. Prior to the

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Lindsey Glavin, Forum Editor *Cathy G. Farrell*, Forum President 2009–10 Michael Baker Jr., Inc. 201 Gibraltar Road, Suite 120, Horsham, PA 215-442-5316; cfarrell@mbakercorp.com

Upcoming Events 2010 Critical Issues Seminar *Green Streets and Sustainable Infrastructure* Wednesday, April 28, 5PM to 7:30PM,

Elephant & Castle, 18th & Market Streets

LEED certification for buildings has gained significant recognition and momentum over the past several years, but what is (or isn't) being done to incorporate linear greening into our roadways and daily infrastructure? This year's panelist-led discussion will attempt to address this and other questions. Our four distinguished panelists, Tony Bartolomeo (Pennoni Associates), Marc Cammarata (Philadelphia Water Department), Greg Krykewycz (DVRPC), and Sue McNeil (University of Delaware), will discuss area projects, programs, research, current practices, and trends for the future. Admission is free; light appetizers and refreshments will be provided. RSVP's are due by April 25.

Phillies Game Outing

Tuesday, August 10, Citizens Bank Park

Please join the YMF to cheer on the 2009 National League Champion Phillies! The YMF will be hosting a tailgate before the game (time and exact location to be announced) and then will proceed into the ballpark to watch the game as a group. Tickets are limited and are being offered on a first come-first serve basis. Reservations are being accepted via our Reservations webpage and payment can now be made by Paypal or check. For additional information please see the event flyer. If you have any questions, please contact **Jeremy Chrzan (secretary@ymfphilly.org)**.

To keep up-to-date on all our upcoming events, sign up for our mailing list by emailing secretary@ymfphilly.org to receive regular updates or visit our events page at http://www. ymfphilly.org/events.htm.

The YMF has been active this past year by having several events. This couldn't have been done without the help of the board. Thank you to Mike Wagner, Jeremy Chrzan, Guy DiMartino, Chris Gray, Dave Petrucci, Chris Renfro, Angelo Waters, Stephen Maakestad, Katherine Berrillo, Jonathan Miller, Alex Sopin, Kazi Hassan, Aimee Bajorek, Jen Reigle, Adrienne Nikolic, Lindsey Glavin, Cathy Farrell, Drew Sirianni, and Don Gusic. Thank you!

Tunnel, the lines had names based on their endpoints, which will be reintroduced when the "R" designators are discontinued. The only change the pre-1984 naming, other than Thorndale (which did not exist then, as the current R5 line ended at Paoli), will be on the current R6 Norristown, which will add Manayunk to its name to reflect the popularity of that station.

Thanks to **PlanPhilly** for some of this information.

APRIL DINNER MEETING

April 8, 2010

Villanova Conference Center, Radnor, PA

Four Breakout Sessions

by Robert Wright, Editor

On a day more like July weather-wise than what the calendar indicated, the ASCE, Phila. Section trekked out to the idyllic surroundings of the Main Line to do something a little different meeting-wise. At the Villanova Conference Center, the over-90 attendees would share dinner and pre-meeting announcements, and then break into four different sessions to hear presentations on the following hot topics:

- *Bridge Failures and Their Remediation* (Structures, **Dr. M. Ali Khan, P.E.,** Project Manager, JMT and Adjunct Professor, Temple University)
- Philadelphia International Airport Runway
 17-35 Expansion Program
 (Construction/Transportation, Christopher

Gubeno, P.E., Vice President/Deputy Director, Aviation Group, Urban Engineers, Inc.)

- Sustainable Arsenic Treatment Project in West Bengal, India (Environmental and Water Resources, Dr. Arun Deb, P.E., DEE, Vice President, Retired, Weston Solutions Inc.)
- Failure of the Levee System in Hurricane Katrina: A 5-Year Perspective (Delaware Valley Geo-Institute, Dr. Joseph Wartman, P.E., Associate Professor of Engineering, Drexel University).

With this many good topics and great speakers, it was a tough choice, but each session appeared to have good attendance.

Detailed reports on each session are not included in this report, as your Editor can only be in one place at one time, despite what many seem to believe!

Section President **Kristen Bowman Kavanagh** opened the meeting, with a blessing of the meal offered by President-Elect **Tom Brady**, and the festivities were begun as attendees were called to the buffet. A brain teaser was left at each table to force attendees to use their noggins while we ate dinner.

The successful candidates for the Section Scholarship were welcomed to the podium to accept their \$1000 awards. **Nate Brown**, a junior at Widener University, received the Section Member Scholarship and **Brian Studer**, a junior at Villanova University, was awarded a Student Scholarship. (**Alisha Strayer**, a junior at Drexel University, was also a Student Scholarship recipient, but was unable to attend the meeting to be honored.)

Four Past Presidents were able to attend the meeting and be honored — Moustafa Gouda (1991-92), Bob Wright (1993-94), Faruq Siddiqui (1999-2000) and Chris Rood (2001-02).

During this time, Section Secretary **AnnMarie Vigilante** had the distinct pleasure (?) of reading the amended Section Constitution into the record, prior to the vote that will be taken on it at the Spring Social. The Constitution and Bylaws are on our website for your review, just in case you were not among those taking copious notes during AnnMarie's insightful reading.

The new "crop" of Life Members was introduced and honored by President Bowman Kavanagh with the assistance of Membership Secretary **Chris Wright.** A separate article reports on the specifics of the new Life Members.

Just prior to dispersing the crowd to the separate sessions, President Bowman Kavanagh gave the brain teaser answers and cited the prizewinning team of "Can You Read the Constitution Again?" with packs of Pop Rocks for their enjoyment.

LIFE MEMBERS HONORED IN APRIL

Our ASCE, Phila. Section welcomed a total of 15 newly-minted Life Members to its fold earlier this year. As you may know, this is a momentous occasion, and it's fairly easy to do if you:

- have reached the age of 65,
- have paid dues for a minimum of 30 years, and
- have had 10 years continuous membership immediately preceding the attainment of Life Membership

Life Members are exempt from dues and need only pay a small service fee to receive ASCE News and Civil Engineering magazine.

Those inducted into Life Membership in 2010 are:

	1		
David Barr	August Bonaducci	David Chou	Kin Chung
Bruce Cossaboom	Carl Doughty	James Druecker	Peter Goldring
Sinan Jawad	John Lang	James McCann	Kevin Momenee
Van Singer	Johann Szautner	James Watson	

We were pleased to be able to have Mr. and Mrs. Chung, Mr. Doughty, Mr. and Mrs. Lang, Mr. McCann, Mr. and Mrs. Momenee, Mr. Singer, Mr. and Mrs. Szautner and Mr. and Mrs. Watson attend the April Section meeting as our guests for their citation and congratulations.

ASCE appreciates the lifelong support of these members. We thank them for their contributions and years of dedication to our profession.

ASCE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DAY IN HARRISBURG

For the fourth year in a row, the four Pennsylvania Sections of ASCE have planned another event to visit legislators and highlight infrastructure needs. This will encompass a visit of our elected officials in **Harrisburg** on **Monday, May 24.** Your participation and voice are needed to let our legislators know how important the infrastructure issue is to our economy and our daily lives.

At 8:00 AM in the Capitol Rotunda, the day will begin as the 2010 Infrastructure Report Card for our state will be unveiled and presented to the Legislature. Following that, attendees will be briefed on our positions and how to have effective meetings with elected representatives. This will be followed by meetings with elected officials to express our support for the findings of the Governor's Transportation Funding Commission, and indicate your interest in providing your professional knowledge to support important policy decisions affecting the health, safety and welfare of Pennsylvanians. Last year's event was quite successful, with over 80 attendees from organizations statewide.

Locally, a Report Card unveiling and ceremonies will be conducted on **Dilworth Plaza** at **City Hall**, starting at **11:30** AM.

More information on the specific event schedule for the day is being assembled and will be included on our website (**www.ascephilly.org**). Please hold the date and check the website for more information.

With the prospect of reduced funding for transportation infrastructure, in spite of the growing needs, and no new resources in sight as the proposed conversion of Interstate 80 to a toll road has been rejected (see the separate article on this), our voices need to be heard, both as Engineers and state residents. We encourage you to ask your employer to support you in this important event as well.

WANTED — TECHNICAL GROUP CHAIR

You won't see many want ads in *THE NEWS*, but here's one. The ASCE, Phila. Section is looking for an energetic, enthusiastic and driven individual to take on the chair of the Engineering Management Technical Group. Our current Chair, **Bill Mulloy**, has expressed a desire to relinquish this post at the end of the current season.

The basic duties of the Chair are the direction of the Group, the planning of a program of events for the season (meetings, tours, etc.), coordination with the Section Board and other Technical Groups, and related duties.

Anyone who may have an interest or has questions about the position should contact President **Kristen Bowman Kavanagh** (contact information is given on page 2).

ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2010–11 SEASON

At the **Spring Social** on **May 14**, the Section's officers and Board members for the current season will be officially installed. We repeat this information here, as there is a slight change from the slate reported in the April edition of *THE NEWS*. They are as follows:

PRESIDENT Thomas W. Brady, Louis Berger Group

> **PRESIDENT ELECT** Ann M. Tomalavage, Malarkey Consulting, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT Jeremy Colello, Pennoni Associates, Inc.

SECRETARY AnnMarie L. Vigilante, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

TREASURER Joseph Platt, Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY Guy DiMartino, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

ASSISTANT TREASURER Peter Sitkowski, Citizens Bank

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Cathy G. Farrell, Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

DIRECTORS

Vicki L. Brown, Widener University ('09-'11) Spencer Finch, Pennsylvania Environmental Council ('10-'12)

Soheila Rahbari, Schoor DePalma ('09-'11)

Theodore Thomson, Duffield Associates ('10- '12)

Jennifer K. Walsh, McMahon Associates Inc. ('10-'12)

Keith Yamatani, Kleinfelder ('09-'11)

PAST PRESIDENTS

Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, Flow Science Inc. Mark J. Tiger, Michael Baker, Jr., Inc. James P. Markham, Pennoni Associates, Inc.

The President of the Reading Branch will be discussed following the results of the recent survey of Reading Branch members on the continued role of the Branch in the Section.

We wish these brave and generous folks our collective good luck for the coming season.

A successful person is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him or her.

— David Brinkley, TV newscaster



Chris Rood presents awards to Science Fair winners Jonathan Collier, Michelle Moffa, Charles Kindt.

SECTION ATTENDS SCIENCE FAIR FOR 17TH YEAR

As has become a tradition, the ASCE, Philadelphia Section participated in the **Delaware Valley Science Fairs** on April 7. For the 17th consecutive year, the Section sent judges to the Fairs at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks. The Section's judges reviewed numerous projects and came up with two winners in each of the categories of Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12.

The winning students and their projects were:

- Grades 6-8 First Place Michelle Moffa, 8th grade, Belhaven Middle School, Linwood, NJ. Michelle's project had the lengthy and selfexplanatory title of "To Mix or Not to Mix – What Arrangement of Natural Materials Most Effectively Filters Water?"
- Grades 6-8 Second Place Charles Kindt, 7th grade, Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary Division, Spring House, took second place with "Shaken to Pieces," investigating structural reaction to earthquake forces.
- Grades 9-12 First Place Grace Reilly, 10th grade, Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, Villanova, impressed the judges with her effort on "Which Bridge is the Strongest?"
- Grades 9-12 Second Place Jonathan Collier, 11th grade, home-schooled, Collingdale, compared several roofing materials with his project on "Up on the Rooftop."

Past President and "chief judge" **Chris Rood**, who coordinates the Section's efforts for the Fairs, attended the award ceremony on April 8 and presented commemorative plaques and checks to the winning students (after which he immediately went to the Section meeting at Villanova to be honored as a Past President — a busy evening for him!). The First Place winners were invited to attend the Spring Social, and we hope to see them there to show off their winning efforts.

Thanks to the students and to those who participated in this event, including Section Judges **Chris Rood, Chris Menna** and **Bob Wright**.

For you "facts and figures" lovers, the Fairs featured 898 projects with 973 students participating (there are team projects offered, which the Section does not judge). A total of 237 schools were represented and 349 teachers at these schools were involved. From the judging side, 430 volunteers participated (tough to do on a very nice spring day, but...). Project-wise, there were 74 Engineering efforts. Since Civil Engineering covers so many sub-fields, the judges often review related projects classified in the earth/space sciences (42 projects), environmental (81), mathematics (39) and physics (72) areas.

2010 SECTION AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT SPRING SOCIAL

ASCE, Philadelphia Section Awards will be presented to five nominees who have been nominated for these honors and approved by the Section Board of Directors at the **Annual Spring Social and Dinner Dance** on **May 14.** Information and details on the Social are given elsewhere in *THE NEWS*. The Section Award recipients are:

- *Mike Gabor,* retired (Urban Engineers) Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year
- *Cathy Farrell,* Michael Baker, Jr., Inc. Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer of the Year
- *Ted Thomson,* Duffield Associates Geotechnical Engineer of the Year
- *Chuck Lawrence,* Philadelphia Regional Port Authority — Engineering Manager of the Year
- *Chris Zearfoss,* retired (City of Philadelphia) — Government Service Award

We hope you will join us at the Social to honor our Awardees for this year.

In the October edition of *THE NEWS*, we will present more information on the awardees as well as a detailed report on the Social.

ELMORE BOLES

We regret to inform of the passing of **Elmore J. Boles, Jr.** on April 10. Mr. Boles was the President of Boles, Smyth Associates Inc. from 1972 to 2009.

Mr. Boles was born in West Philadelphia. He graduated from West Catholic High School in 1949, and earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1955 and a master's degree in 1960 from the Drexel Institute of Technology (now Drexel University). In addition to founding two consulting firms prior to starting Boles, Smyth, he was an assistant professor of Civil Engineering at Drexel from 1955 to 1966 and a visiting assistant professor of City Planning at the University of Pennsylvania from 1964 to 1966.

The ASCE, Phila. Section recognized Mr. Boles' numerous contributions as our Transportation Engineer of the Year in 1989.

Mr. Boles is survived by his wife of 52 years, Sarah;sons Timothy, Michael and Paul; daughters Nora Boles, Sarah Schaffer, Jennifer Barnett, Kathleen Rodriguez, and Elizabeth Boyce; and 17 grandchildren.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SECTION CONSTITUTION

Proposed changes to the Section Constitution have been approved by the Board of Directors and are located on our website for review. Section Members will be asked to vote on the proposed changes at our upcoming Spring Social.

ANACE*

So how come they're not called "Jacob's"?

Jacob Davis (born Jacob Youphes in Riga, Latvia, in 1831) came to America in 1854 and operated tailor shops in New York City and Augusta, Maine. He went west during the Gold Rush. Not finding his fortune, he followed the Silver Rush to Virginia City, Nevada, where he opened a cigar store. Three months later, however, he was working again as a tailor.

In 1868 he moved north to little railroad town of Reno, Nevada. He invested his money in a brewery but lost it all. By 1869 he returned to tailoring and opened a shop on Virginia Street. He began making wagon covers and tents from an off-white cotton duck cloth which he purchased from the wholesale house of Levi Strauss & Co. beginning in 1870.

That same year, a woman customer came to him for a pair of "cheap" pants for her "large" husband who had a habit of going through pants rather quickly. She paid him \$3 in advance for the white duck pants, and told Davis she wanted them made as strong as possible. Davis had some copper rivets in his shop, which he used to attach straps to the horse blankets he made for local teamsters. When he had finished making the pants, it occurred to him that it might be a good idea to fasten the pockets with the same rivets. The pants were an immediate success.

Within eighteen months he had made and sold two hundred pairs of the riveted pants, and he was beginning to be imitated by other tailors. By 1871 he was routinely using rivets on the pants he made — first on duck pants, but soon thereafter denim, as well. An old hand at applying for patents (his previous applications had been for a steam powered canal boat and steam-powered ore crusher), he wrote to Levi Strauss, describing his success with the riveted waist overalls and asking if he would like to jointly apply for a patent with him.

Strauss agreed and in addition invited Davis to San Francisco to oversee manufacture of the riveted pants for the company. The patent was approved in 1873. Initially, the pants were sewn by women working in their homes, but demand necessitated the construction of a manufacturing facility in San Francisco, for which Davis was named supervisor.

In the mid-1900's Davis sold his interest in the patent and the manufacturing to Levi Strauss & Co., but he continued to supervise the factory until his death in 1908.

COMING UP ON THE BIG 1-0-0...

If you've been paying attention to the masthead on each edition of *THE NEWS*, you've noticed that we are currently in our 97th year of existence. A little bit of math tells us that our century anniversary is sneaking up on us, and we will celebrate 100 years in our 2012-13 season.

So we have some time to plan, right? As we

anniversary gift is for this occasion. A trip to any card store will give us this information, basically for wedding anniversaries (and we'll repeat it here to save you a trip to the card store, not one of your Editor's favorite haunts (and no disrespect to Hallmark, Carlton, American Greetings, etc.)).

Since not very many marriages make it to the triple-digit anniversary, we're not sure how this will help, but we did promise to save you from having to visit the card store.

1st - Paper / clocks 2nd - Cotton / china 3rd - Leather / crystal, glass 4th - Linen, silk / electrical appliances 5th – Wood / silverware 6th - Iron / wood 7th-Wool, copper / desk sets, pen/pencil sets 8th - Bronze / linens, laces 9th - Pottery, china / leather 10th - Tin, aluminum / diamond jewelry 11th - Steel / fashion jewelry, accessories 12th - Silk / pearls, colored gems 13th – Lace / textiles, furs 14th – Ivory / gold jewelry 15th - Crystal / watches 20th - China / platinum 25th - Silver / sterling silver 30th - Pearl / diamond 35th - Coral / jade 40th - Ruby 45th - Sapphire 50th - Gold 55th - Emerald 60th - Diamond So how did this all start? The origins are

so now did this all start? The origins are unclear. It is known that the practice of giving peculiar gifts on various wedding anniversaries originated in Central Europe. The medieval Germans had a custom in which friends present a wife with a wreath of silver when she had lived with her husband for 25 years. The silver symbolized the harmony that was assumed to be necessary to make so many years of matrimony possible. On the 50th anniversary (and, remember, not many got to this point, as life spans were shorter then) the wife was presented with a wreath of gold. One has to wonder why the husbands are not considered for gifts (at least one who is a husband does).

Emily Post listed "eight anniversaries known to all" in her 1922 Blue Book of Social Usage [listing 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 50th, and 75th anniversaries]. Mrs. Post then went on to report that "until comparatively modern times, the eight anniversaries were all that were acknowledged." She listed a symbolic anniversary gift for each of the first fifteen years of marriage, following the trend of the times, and one for every five years after that. This is the basis for the lists we use today. Following Mrs. Post's listing, in 1937, the American National Retail Jeweler Association issued a more comprehensive list, which associated a material for each anniversary year up to the 20th and then each fifth year after that up to the 75th, with the exception of the 65th. There is also a suggestion for a 100th anniversary gift, not that many marriages will make it to that point, but if they do, it's worth a 10k diamond. (Just in case you were thinking about what to get the Section for its 100th year...)

Thanks to the **Chicago Public Library** for this information.

*ANACE – Absolutely Nothing About or Concerning Engineering

NOT SO GOOD NEWS FOR TRANSPORTATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

As you may have heard, the federal government has rejected the application to turn Interstate 80 into a toll highway, eliminating a key source of money to pay for highway, bridge and mass transit projects across the state. The decision was a victory for many lawmakers and congressmen across northern Pennsylvania who had opposed the idea as an unfair burden on the residents and businesses they represent. It also could set up a thorny, election-year search by lawmakers for money to maintain a state transportation system already considered underfunded.

Gov. Rendell said he would call a special session of the Legislature to find a way to replace the \$450 million-plus per year that tolls were to produce for transportation projects. The decision has dire consequences for jobs, commerce and quality of life, and he contacted legislative leaders to urge them to act quickly on a plan to replace the money, he said. The Federal Highway Administration said it rejected the application because money from I-80 tolls could only have been used to operate and maintain the highway itself, but the application went beyond that. According to PennDOT, the \$472 million from the tolls in the 2010-11 budget year would have been part of \$2.9 billion in highway and bridge improvements and \$1.6 billion in state and federal support for mass transit.

As the Infrastructure Report Card for Pennsylvania is being trotted out later this month (see the separate article on Legislative Day), this has even more significance. We urge you to contact your elected officials and, if possible, show your support for infrastructure needs on Legislative Day. This is something we all need.

For the most part, things never get built the way they were drawn.

— Maya Lin, American architect

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Khan Publishes New Textbook

Dr. Mohiuddin (Ali) Khan, our Structures Technical Group (soon to be Structural Engineering Institute) Chair has just published the first edition of *Bridge and Highway Structure Rehabilitation and Repair* with McGraw-Hill. The book has already been prescribed as a text in several universities for senior undergraduate and graduate Engineering classes. Ali is also a coauthor for *Handbook of Scour Countermeasures*, published by New Jersey DOT.

Ali has significant experience in bridge design in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. He also helped to develop sections of the New Jersey DOT Bridge Design Manual pertaining to Seismic Design, Section 45, and Scour Analysis, Section 46. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in four states as well as a Chartered Engineer in England.

May Now at Atlantic City Electric

During those winter snowstorms that would seemingly never end (and have, and, amazingly, all the snow is gone!), you may have found yourself glued to the TV, watching the continuous news coverage telling you what you already knew — that it was snowing outside. If you found yourself so engrossed, you may have noticed a familiar face in some of the reports. Past Section President **Sandra May** is now the spokesperson for Atlantic City Electric and was often seen and/or heard telling us how many of the company's customers were without service. She notes that, during the worst of it, there were over 100,000 customers not getting "juice".

AECOM at New Digs

AECOM's local office in Center City has moved from its former location at 260 S. Broad Street (Broad & Spruce) to 1700 Market Street.

...AND **NOW** WE'RE DONE FOR 2009-10!

As noted in the April edition of *THE NEWS*, we usually shut down the presses after the April issue. The ASCE, Philadelphia Section has decided to extend your reading enjoyment (?) by one more edition, so we've published the May issue you're now reading.

Before the hierarchy of the Section gets any funny ideas, however, we've "closed the books" for the 2009-10 season with this edition, and will now go off for our summer hiatus. We will likely jump-start the presses sometime this summer to produce a Summer issue, as we have done for the past couple of years, so you may see that in your in-box around about July-ish.

We hope you enjoy your summer and see you again in the Fall!



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