



### **ASCE, PHILA. SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2011-12**

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section Meeting program for the upcoming season is falling into place, and the dates shown below are the Section meetings remaining for this season, after January. We would suggest that you use this to mark your calendar at this time and hold the dates. In coming issues of *THE NEWS*, we will provide updates as information becomes available. We also suggest you visit the Section website for the latest changes in our meeting program.

Dinner meetings generally follow a schedule of a cocktail hour starting at 5:30PM, dinner at 6:30PM, and the meeting presentation following at approximately 7:30 PM, unless otherwise noted. We also intend to follow our second-Thursday pattern after our joint meeting with ASHE in January. As always, you are welcome to attend the meeting presentation without dinner at no cost if you prefer to do so.

The remaining dates, all in 2012, are:

**February 9; March 8; April 12**

Also, please watch this space for more information on the 2012 Spring Social as it is finalized.

### **DON'T FORGET TO RENEW!**

Last month, we issued a challenge for members to return their membership dues for 2012, with the Section that had the most number of renewals eligible to receive \$1000. If you did this, thanks, and you needn't read this any further. If you didn't, please continue.

Dues invoices for 2012 were mailed in late September, and we hope, if you didn't help us meet the challenge noted above, that you still intend to renew and remain an active member of ASCE. Your current membership expires on December 31 and we appreciate your ongoing support.

### **NOTICE - CHANGES IN MEETING PRICES**

As a reminder, we would like to provide information on our revised prices for ASCE, Philadelphia Section-sponsored dinner meetings.

The good news is that the dinner price remains at \$40 for those making advance reservations by the advertised deadline.

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## **DECEMBER JOINT DINNER MEETING**

Engineers' Club of Philadelphia  
American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section  
Society of American Military Engineers, Philadelphia Post  
Construction Management Association of America, Mid-Atlantic Chapter  
Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering, Delaware Valley Chapter  
Institute of Electric and Electronic Engineers, Power Engineering/Industry Applications Chapter  
Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, Delaware County Chapter  
Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, Philadelphia Chapter  
Project Management Institute, Delaware Valley Chapter  
Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, Philadelphia Section  
Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers, Philadelphia Section  
Society of Women Engineers, Philadelphia Chapter  
South Jersey Association of Mechanical Contractors

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2011**

**Down Town Club, Public Ledger Building**, 6th and Chestnut Streets,  
Center City Philadelphia (enter from 6th Street). Discounted parking is available at the  
7th & Ranstead Streets garage (7th Street north of Chestnut Street). Parking stubs must be  
validated at the meeting registration table.  
Cocktails 5:30 PM • Dinner 6:30 PM • Meeting 7:30 PM

**SUBJECT: Philadelphia's Navy Yard — Past, Present, Future**

**SPEAKER: Robert Gorgone**, Director of Energy and Sustainability, Planning and Management  
at The Navy Yard, Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC)

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## **Resolve to attend ALL Section Meetings This Year!**

## **JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING**

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section  
Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012**

Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge, 1st Avenue and Gulph Road, Valley Forge, PA  
Cocktails 6:00 PM, Dinner 7:00 PM, Meeting Presentation 8:00 PM  
Cost \$35 before January 13 (\$20 for government employees and students),  
\$45 January 14 and after and at the door.

**SUBJECT: New Jersey Turnpike Interchange 6 to 9 Widening Program**

**SPEAKER: John Keller, P.E., PMP**, Program Manager, New Jersey Turnpike Authority

PLEASE NOTE: RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH **DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION, ASHE**. The Philadelphia Section will NOT be accepting any reservations for this meeting. Payment for reservations must be received at ASHE by the January 13 deadline. Those who reserve past this date and walk-ins will be charged the higher rate. Reservations will be accepted starting December 27.

Walk-ins will be subject to acceptance on a space-available basis. **THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE.**

More information will be provided in the January edition of *THE NEWS*.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### INFRASTRUCTURE—IT'S NOT JUST FOR ENGINEERS ANY MORE!

You've probably heard that ASCE's 2009 Infrastructure Report Card, which covers, among other things, surface transportation, water and wastewater, and dams, gave the US an overall grade of D. I would have been grounded had I brought home anything close to a D! ASCE estimates that the nation needs to invest approx. \$2.2 trillion from 2009-2014 just to maintain our infrastructure in a state of good repair. If the nation continues to under-invest in our infrastructure and ignore this backlog until systems fail, we will incur even greater costs. It's sad that little has changed since the 2005 Report Card!

According to PA State Senate Appropriations Committee chair Jake Corman (R-Centre), PA leads the nation in the number of structurally deficient bridges, and more than 8000 miles of highway need to be repaired or replaced! "Now is the time to act—the evidence is overwhelming and the need is there. The only thing holding us back is political fear."

Repairing our infrastructure is about three things: safety, jobs, and competitiveness (i.e., PA needs to compete with other states, and the US needs to compete internationally). In his State of the Union address this past January, President Obama said, "We cannot build the economy of the future with yesterday's failing infrastructure."

Governor Corbett's Transportation Funding Advisory Commission (TFAC) issued a report in August. TFAC was tasked with finding an additional \$2-\$2.5 billion annually for the Commonwealth's transportation infrastructure needs. The downside of fuel-efficient cars is that PA now collects less fuel tax revenue per mile traveled than it has at any time in the past.

ASCE National supports several ideas for revenue streams to fund infrastructure investments, including an increase in the gas tax (which has not been raised since 1993), indexing the motor fuels tax to the Consumer Price Index, and transitioning to vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

Not only are Engineers concerned about this issue; **Fareed Zakaria** of CNN has written articles for the Washington Post and his blog. He also had a week-long feature on his CNN program, Global Public Square (GPS). (I know this because I watch CNN while I'm puffing away at the gym.) Zakaria is in favor of a national infrastructure bank, which would provide loans and loan guarantees with the expectation of getting repaid. Both Democrats and Republicans support it.

I encourage you to read up on the infrastructure issues. And then call or email your Senators and Representatives. Tell them that PA and the US need to be safe, employed, and competitive!

Sincerely,

Ann M. Tomalavage, P.E., PMP, LEED AP  
President, ASCE, Philadelphia Section

## TAKE A RIDE ON THE READING (BRANCH)

This segment will appear on a periodic basis to highlight the events and history of our Section's Reading Branch.

New Branch officers have been installed. These are the following:

**PRESIDENT: E. J. Walsh**, McCarthy Engineering (ewalsh@mccarthy-engineering.com) continues in this position

**TREASURER: Phillip Harter**, WorleyParsons (phillip.harter@worleyparsons.com)

**SECRETARY: Nicholas Johnson**, Great Valley Consultants (nrj275@gmail.com)

The Branch is tentatively planning to be a joint partner in the Section's March 2012 meeting. More information on this will be forthcoming.

**ONLY THOSE WHO DARE TO FAIL GREATLY CAN EVER ACHIEVE GREATLY.**

— Robert F. Kennedy

## PSPE PHILADELPHIA ENGINEERS WEEK BANQUET

The Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE), Philadelphia Chapter, will conduct its **2012 National Engineers Week Banquet** on **Saturday, February 25, 2012** at the **Springfield Country Club** (400 West Sproul Road, Springfield). This event will recognize, promote and celebrate the role that Engineers fill in the Greater Philadelphia and Delaware Valley Region.

The price per person is \$60.00 for reservations received before February 17, 2012 and \$75.00 for reservations received afterward. Reservations can be made on the Chapter's website, **www.pspe-philly.org**, using PayPal. Sponsorships and table-top exhibits are also available, and information on these can be found on the Chapter's website.

**ANYTHING ONE MAN CAN IMAGINE, OTHER MEN CAN MAKE REAL.**

— Jules Verne

## ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION – 2011-12 SEASON

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### PRESIDENT, READING BRANCH

E. J. Walsh, McCarthy Engineering

### President – Ann M. Tomalavage, P.E.

Malarkey Consulting, Inc.

1429 Shaner Drive

Pottstown, PA 19465

610-326-0205

ann@malarkey.us

### Secretary – AnnMarie L. Vigilante, P.E.

Project Manager

Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

P.O. Box 1569, Doylestown, PA 18901-0219

(215) 491-6500

avigilante@langan.com

### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

#### Editor of THE NEWS

Robert Wright

#### Staff Writers

James Markham Joe Szymick

#### SEND COPY TO:

ASCE, c/o Engineers' Club of Philadelphia

215 S. 16th Street, Suite 16

Philadelphia, PA 19102

**COPY DEADLINE FOR  
JANUARY 2012 ISSUE  
DECEMBER 16, 2011**

## ADVANCE PLANNING FOR ENGINEERS WEEK

The Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee will be celebrating **Engineers Week 2012** from **February 17 through February 25** and will continue its schedule of three events which will highlight the various contributions of Engineers and Engineering students in the Delaware Valley. Please note this information in your calendar and plan to participate.

### AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION LUNCHEON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2012

DoubleTree Hotel, Center City

The Awards and Proclamation Luncheon includes:

- A poster session with presentation of student paper winners from 10:00 AM to 12 noon prior to the Luncheon
- Engineers Week Awards and Scholarships will be presented
- Engineers Week proclamations will be displayed
- Project and individual awards of all participating Engineering societies in the Delaware Valley will be recognized
- The Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year will make brief remarks

### YOUNG ENGINEER SOCIAL EVENT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012

This event will be a happy-hour type event at a location geared to younger Engineers. The Young Engineer of the Year will make brief remarks.

### CELEBRATION OF ENGINEERING RECEPTION THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2012

Pyramid Club, Center City

The culminating event of Engineers Week will be a social/networking gala event to celebrate Engineering, with cocktails, appetizer stations, and desert stations. Other features of the event include:

- Award recipients will be honored with posters, exhibits, and running PowerPoint presentations in the networking area
- Future City Competition Regional winners will display their first place model
- The Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the year will provide brief remarks, followed by a brief recognition of the Hall of Fame, Outstanding Service, and Engineering Achievement award recipients

The location for the Young Engineer Social Event is still in the planning stages and will be announced shortly. More information will be provided on price, location, and other details in the coming months. Please visit [www.dvewc.org](http://www.dvewc.org) for up-to-date announcements.

As always, **volunteers are needed!** If you are interested in volunteering for one of the many activities of Engineers Week, please visit [www.dvewc.org](http://www.dvewc.org).

## NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

November 18, 2011

The Down Town Club – Center City Philadelphia

### *Pier 11 (Race Street Pier) Rehabilitation*

*by Robert Wright, Editor*

Meeting #2 for the current season found us once again at the Down Town Club, with about 50 folks looking to hear more about the transformation of an abandoned and decrepit facility into an exciting new place to be on Philadelphia's waterfront.

ASCE, Phila. Section President **Ann Tomalavage** opened the meeting with her welcome, then called upon several folks to make announcements on different topics. Following dinner, President Tomalavage invited President Elect **Jeremy Colello** to introduce the evening's speakers.

### **WHAT WAS MUNICIPAL PIER 11...**

The project design team from Langan Engineering and Environmental Services included Project Manager **Christopher Hager** and Project Engineers/Designers **Tom Spokas** and **Chad Carreras**. (Chief Structural Engineer **Alex Shue** was slated to be on the presentation squad but was unable to attend given a last-minute conflict.) Mr. Hager started off the "show" with some background on the project. This is the first effort launched by the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC) and the first new public space of its kind to be realized as part of DRWC's ambitious new Master Plan for the Central Delaware River Waterfront. Langan was the Engineering "component" on the design team led by James Corner Field Operations, a firm known for its work on the High Line Park in New York City.

Mr. Spokas presented a brief history and

perspective of the pier, which evolved from a working part of the bustling commercial waterfront after its construction in the 1890's. It had good access on the landside from both railroads and the local trolley operators in its heyday. The pier served a variety of uses over its lifespan, both in the movement of goods as well as people, as in its later years it was the place at which passenger boats offering local cruises along the Delaware launched. Police and fire marine units were based here for many years. Its prominence faded with the opening of Penns Landing in the 1970's and it fell into disuse.

Part of its changed role could be attributed to the construction of Interstate 95 just west of what is now Columbus Boulevard, which presented a "barrier" of sorts, both physically and psychologically. Even though Race Street still snaked its way under the highway structures to reach the waterfront from the neighborhoods to the west, it was not easily traveled on foot, and it was certainly not a welcoming experience. Mr. Spokas noted that the waterfront revitalization plan developed by Penn Praxis a few years ago highlighted the need for better connections from adjacent communities to re-establish the previous ties to the waterfront. The lack of these connections has often been cited as an impediment to Penns Landing development in particular and waterfront revitalization in general.

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## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

As reported last month, the ASCE, Phila. Section's Scholarship Program is open for applications for the 2011-12 season. It will follow the same format as it did last season, when it changed slightly from previous years as far as schedule of submissions and awards.

The Section offers three distinct undergraduate scholarships annually:

- ASCE Delaware Valley Engineers Week Scholarship
- ASCE Student Scholarship
- ASCE Section Member Scholarship

Scholarship winners will be recognized as the Section's guests at our March 2012 dinner meeting.

### ENGINEERS WEEK SCHOLARSHIP

The deadline for this scholarship's applications has passed for this year.

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

At least one \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Section to an undergraduate Civil Engineering student who meets the following requirements.

- The applicant must be matriculating in a full-time Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program at one of the five colleges which have Student Chapters in the Philadelphia Section: Drexel University, Swarthmore College, Temple University, Villanova University, or Widener University.
- The applicant must be an active participant in the ASCE Student Chapter.
- The applicant must be in their sophomore or junior year (and Pre-Juniors at Drexel).

Application Requirements:

- The applicant's name, GPA and/or class rank, and an address/telephone number where they can be reached must be included with the scholarship application. Additional information for consideration (such as need) is allowed. A letter and/or resume is an acceptable means to provide this information.
- A recommendation letter from the applicant's faculty advisor is not required but is strongly suggested.
- The applicant will be required to submit an essay, limited to 1,000 words, on ONE of the following topics:
  - (1) With the heightened need for additional infrastructure funding and the increased political and public awareness of this need, how would you suggest that Civil Engineers capitalize on this and use their knowledge to increase political and public support of additional funding without sounding self-serving?
  - (2) How do you explain what Civil Engineering is to Non-Engineers? How can some of those ideas be expanded to enhance the public knowledge of the Civil Engineering profession so that people understand what we do and students are attracted to the field?

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## DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

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**RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2.** The cost will be \$50 per attendee. A reduced rate of \$30 is available for government agency employees and students. For reservations made after December 2 and "walk-ups" without prior reservations paying at the door, the cost will be \$60 and will be on a space-available basis. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE 13 SOCIETIES PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT AND A LARGE TURNOUT IS EXPECTED**, thus we do not anticipate that those not reserving in advance will be able to be accommodated. As always, you are welcome to attend the meeting without dinner at no cost, space permitting.

Reservations for this meeting will be handled by the Engineers' Club. Please reserve in one of the following ways:

On-line at <http://engrclub.org/to/multi-society>  
E-mail at [reservations@engrclub.org](mailto:reservations@engrclub.org)  
Call **215-985-5703**

Mail to Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 16, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Reservations will NOT be accepted through the Section's reservation system for this meeting.

Discounted parking is available at the 7th & Ranstead Streets garage (7th Street north of Chestnut Street). Parking stubs must be validated at the meeting registration table.

**PLEASE NOTE – TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION:** CMAA has arranged for a **Toys for Tots** collection to be conducted as part of this meeting, as has been done for several years. Representatives of the Marine Corps are scheduled to stop at the meeting to collect the toys for distribution. Please bring one unwrapped, unused toy/item for this purpose.

The Philadelphia Navy Yard was the country's first naval shipyard, and its origins date to the founding of our country when the Continental Congress leased land along the Front Street docks to support the new nation's fledgling Navy. The site became an official part of the United States Navy in 1801, but was moved to its current location at League Island around the time of the Civil War.

Over the ensuing years, The Navy Yard became a vital part of the Navy's logistical and industrial infrastructure. Many of the Navy's most significant technological advances and historic ships were produced here. Despite this, the Navy officially closed the Yard in 1995, but significant military facilities remain, including The Navy Ship Systems Engineering Station.

In its transition from military base to public use, The Navy Yard has grown to be a significant office, research and industrial park, including being home to one of the world's most advanced commercial shipbuilding facilities (the Aker Philadelphia Shipyard), and the corporate headquarters for diverse companies like retailer Urban Outfitters and the Tasty Baking Company. Its 1200-acre, dynamic waterfront development location offers the region a unique and centrally-located environment with over 115 companies and 8,000 employees.

Diverse architectural styles, from new office complexes, huge industrial and distribution facilities, state-of-the-art research laboratories and historic buildings on quaint tree-lined streets, and an uncompromising commitment to sustainability combine to create a singular, campus-like atmosphere.

Mr. Gorgone's presentation will focus on The Navy Yard development status, its guiding principles, Clean Energy Campus, sustainability and energy, as well as next steps.

**Robert G. Gorgone** has over 40 years experience in the Maritime and Manufacturing Industry is currently responsible for Energy and Sustainability Planning and Management at The Navy Yard, Philadelphia, for PIDC, which administers the site.

As Director, Mr. Gorgone manages the day to day utility operations and utility capital projects and is directing Smart Grid improvements and a comprehensive Energy Master Plan at The Navy Yard. Its assets include a central steam power plant, water and sewer system and electrical distribution system. The Navy Yard is considered one of the largest non-municipal, private electric distribution systems in the region.

Previously Mr. Gorgone served as the Director of Business and Strategic Planning at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard where he directed the Navy's business operations. He has extensive project management experience with complex Navy programs, and has served as manager of a business incubator where individuals and companies established themselves and their businesses at The Navy Yard. He has been involved in the economic development and re-use of the former Philadelphia Naval Base and Shipyard including the privatization of the former public shipyard into a location considered a national center for research, education and commercialization of energy related technologies.

Mr. Gorgone holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the University of Massachusetts and graduate studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University and Penn State University.

## DELAWARE VALLEY GEO-INSTITUTE (DVGI)

The DVGI tentative schedule of meetings for this season is as follows:

**JANUARY 17, 2012 – BOB AND GEORGE KOERNER**

Geosynthetics Issues with Marcellus Shale Development

**FEBRUARY 22, 2012 – STUDENT NIGHT (VILLANOVA)**

Please visit the DVGI website ([www.dvgi.org](http://www.dvgi.org)) for updates and more information.

## YOU WILL RISE BY LIFTING OTHERS.

– Robert Green Ingersoll

## DREXEL OFFERS SYMPOSIUM FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering Department (CAEE) at Drexel University will be offering a day-long lecture series which will provide Professional Development credits for Licensed Professional Engineers (PE's). This opportunity will take place over one full day and will allow attendees to sign up for individual classes (at 2 PDH's per class) or the entire symposium.

There will be a weekday session (**Wednesday, January 25, 2012**) and a weekend session (**Saturday, January 28, 2012**) to provide further options for students. The sessions will be conducted on Drexel's campus in University City. Participants will be granted a certificate upon completion of their course(s).

The sessions will consist of the following courses and the attendee may select courses from either Listing A or Listing B:

### 8 AM TO 10 AM

- Geology of the Marcellus Shale (A)
- Ethics (B)

### 10:15 AM TO 12:15 PM

- Drilling Technology to Extract Natural Gas Reserves (A)

- New Developments in Geosynthetics (B)

### 1 PM TO 3 PM

- Fracturing and Environmental Impacts (A)
- Public Private Partnerships (B)

### 3:15 PM TO 5:15 PM

- Supporting Infrastructure to Extract Natural Gas and Transportation to the User (A)
- Seismic Design – IBC 2009 (B)

Registration fees are:

One session - \$149

Two sessions on one day - \$249

Three sessions on one day - \$329

Four sessions on one day - \$399

Registration is due by **January 12, 2012**. Registration at the door will be \$50 additional and subject to available space. Credit cards will NOT be accepted – checks only.

Please visit the website [www.cae.drexel.edu/seminars.asp](http://www.cae.drexel.edu/seminars.asp) and click the calendar tab for registration information, or contact **Sarah Colins** at **215-895-1918, [sjc349@drexel.edu](mailto:sjc349@drexel.edu)**.

## FUTURE CITY UNDERWAY

The **Philadelphia Future City Competition** will be conducted on **Saturday, January 28, 2012**. This will be the 17th successful year of the competition in our area. Mentoring opportunities are available now and many volunteers will be needed the day of the competition. Our ASCE, Philadelphia Section will once again offer a Section prize and judges are needed for this effort.

Information on volunteer and mentor opportunities is available at the Future City website, [www.futurecityphilly.org](http://www.futurecityphilly.org).

## NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

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Pier 11 was seen as an early-action opportunity to create a public place on the waterfront on one of the major "axes" which connects to the rest of the city. Mr. Spokas explained that DRWC saw this as a critical element in its Central Waterfront plan and pursued funding to make it a reality.

### ...IS NOW THE RACE STREET PIER

Messrs. Hager and Spokas outlined the issues and solutions pursued to transform the pier into the desired public place. This would include the pier revitalization itself as well as upgrades to Race Street to complete the connection. Several alternatives were developed and reviewed, keeping in mind the constraints of the site and the structural condition of the pier's supporting pilings. Permitting would be an early action and would require many submissions and lots of review time, so a chosen alternate was identified and design work was started quickly. The selected option was a mix of beach/boardwalk and urban/pier settings which became known as the "slice", a concept with many challenges as it had few straight edges.

Mr. Carreras highlighted the various loading conditions and tidal effects that would need to be taken into consideration. Something as simple as a tree trench to create landscaping had to be carefully designed to account for these factors. Loading was also a main consideration, particularly to make sure loads were evenly distributed, and geofoam was used extensively because of its light weight and ease of construction. He showed many of the details that had to be created to make all desired elements fit and have sufficient support and stability to meet the specialized needs of the site. Specific viewpoints were added to allow visitors to see the structural elements of the pier using cut-out areas that were previously used for cargo and wharf lifting.

Mr. Carreras walked the audience through the Race Street connection, showing both "before" and proposed conditions. Deficiencies were identified and solutions developed to provide clear, unimpeded walking and biking paths. Signage and artwork assist in helping users find their ways and enjoy what was a very foreboding place. A unique light screen provides an unusual display which "tracks" the movement of vehicles on Race Street beneath the I-95 and Market-Frankford El overpasses in light pulses and flashes.

The revitalized pier was opened to the public in May and has been well received. Mr. Hager noted that Mayor Nutter, who was very skeptical about the project when he first visited the site before any design work had been done, was very much impressed and expressed this at his speech at the opening ceremonies.

Several insightful questions from the audience were ably addressed by the speakers.

President Tomalavage thanked the speakers for an informative session and presented tokens of the Section's appreciation to them.

The Editor thanks **Helene Brennan** for her assistance with this article.

## UPDATE ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

The "buzz" of activity that surrounded the October 1 deadline for professional license renewal in Pennsylvania, and the first renewal for which continued professional development (CPD) was required, has fortunately passed. Hopefully, you were able to get your required number of professional development hours (PDH) in time. If you didn't get the PDH's and didn't meet the CPD stipulation (and maybe needed CPR in the process?), the State Board will be notifying you as to how this must be done by April, as we understand this.

For those of you with New Jersey licenses, you'll need to endure another "first time" with the CPD requirement, which is in effect for renewals due in April.

The Section's PDH Committee has developed guidance on this and it will be uploaded to our website shortly. We will include more on this in the January edition of *THE NEWS*.

## MEETING PRICE CHANGE

*Continued from Page 1*

More good news is that the dinner price for students remains at \$20.

Even more good news is a break for government and public agency employees, for whom we now offer a discounted dinner price of \$20.

So-so news is that these prices apply ONLY to those meetings sponsored by our Section. In December, January and February, we are co-sponsors of meetings that are being administered by partner groups and these groups will be setting their own prices. Information on the pricing schedule is given in the dinner announcement on page 1. Good news is that both the Engineers' Club (December) and ASHE (January) will offer similar discounted prices for students and government/agency employees. We have not established the price structure for our planned February meeting but will do this shortly.

The not-so-good news applies to those of you who do not make advance reservations by the published deadline or who do not have a reservation and pay at the door. The dinner price will be raised by \$10, to \$50, in these instances. This will NOT affect the student and government/agency rates. However, we emphasize that the late and/or no reservation approach comes with a risk and is subject to space available. We cannot guarantee that space will be available for anyone without an advance reservation.

Also, PayPal will be closed as of the end of business on the date of the reservation deadline, so those attempting to reserve after the deadline will need to pay by check (either mailed in or at the door) or with cash at the door.

As always, participants are welcome to attend the presentation portions of our meetings without dinner at no charge.

Information on meeting prices will always be provided in the advance announcement for each meeting in our e-mail blasts, on our website, and in *THE NEWS*.

## ENVIRONMENTAL & WATER RESOURCES TECHNICAL GROUP

*Dinner Meeting*

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012**

**SUBJECT: Stream Restoration in Philadelphia**

**SPEAKER: Rick Howley**, Environmental Engineer, Philadelphia Water Department

**TIME: 5:30 PM** - Registration / Networking

6:00 PM - Dinner

6:45 PM - Presentation

**LOCATION: Michael's Restaurant and Delicatessen**, 130 Town Center Rd., Valley Forge Center, Route 202, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Directions to the restaurant can be found at [www.michaelsdeli.com/directions.asp](http://www.michaelsdeli.com/directions.asp)

**COST: \$25.00 per member / \$15.00 per full-time student (includes dinner)**

**RSVP's due by Friday, December 30**

Mr. Howley will present the Philadelphia Water Department's Integrated Watershed Approach to Stream Restoration. Restoration of Tacony Creek and Cobbs Creek in Philadelphia will encompass stream restoration, park improvement, and implementation of green infrastructure. The goals, opportunities, constraints, and enhancement methods associated with environmental restoration in an urban setting will be discussed.

Post reservations to the website: [www.asce-philly.org](http://www.asce-philly.org). Payment by PayPal can be done from the ASCE reservation website. Payment by check or cash can be provided at the meeting. Checks should be made payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE." Reservation cancellations must be made 48 hours in advance or you will be charged for the meeting. Contact **Eve D'Onofrio** at **610-630-1660** or **Jim Cinelli** at **610-741-1415** if you have any questions.

Attendees are eligible for one (1) Professional Development Hour (PDH) for attending this presentation.

## YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

**James Graham**, Forum Editor

**Jeremy Chrzan**, Forum President 2011-12

Pennoni Associates, Inc.

3001 Market Street, 2nd Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19104

215-222-3000

[jchrzan@pennoni.com](mailto:jchrzan@pennoni.com)

## PHILADELPHIA CARES DAY – OCTOBER 22

YMF, in partnership with Pennoni Associates, took part in the **18th Annual Philly Cares Day** on October 22 on the 3400 block of Crystal Street in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia. YMF was assigned to that location with two other organizations; **M-Pact Youth Ministry** and **Hope Ministries**. A total combined of 30 volunteers from all the organizations help the residents of that community revitalize and beautify the street block. Armed with brooms, paint brushes, paint and trash cans the volunteers swept the street and the front porch of abandoned houses, repainted the curbs and the numbers on the houses.

*Continued on page 6*



## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS — AND SPECIAL THANKS TO SPECIAL SPONSORS

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section Sponsorship program continues to be a success, with 18 local firms participating. As always, the Section extends its collective “thank you” to our sponsors for their commitment and continued support of the Section.

Along with this, we’d like to especially thank some of our sponsors, those who allow their employees to spend time and effort to keep volunteer organizations such as ours running smoothly. These firms include:

- Malarkey Consulting (President Ann Tomalavage)
- Pennoni Associates (President Elect Jeremy Colello and Director Ted Thomson)
- Traffic Planning & Design (Treasurer Guy DiMartino and Assistant Treasurer Joe Platt)
- Michael Baker Jr. Inc. (Membership Secretary Cathy Farrell and Past President Mark Tiger)
- STV, Inc. (Director Mark Preim)
- Kleinfelder (Director Keith Yamatani)

There are several benefits available to you as a Section Sponsor. For a low annual fee, you too can be a part of this program and have your business card appear in each edition of *THE NEWS*, among other perks. You may have seen the cards of those who have decided to become Section Sponsors for the current season throughout this edition. If your firm is not in this esteemed group, and you would like to become a sponsor, this is the time to consider it.

For information on the program, please contact our Editor, **Bob Wright** at (215) 922-8081, x1647 or [newseditor@philly-asce.org](mailto:newseditor@philly-asce.org).

## YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM

*Continued from Page 5*

### CANSTRUCTION - SPRING 2012

The YMF will be participating in the 2012 Construction design/build competition located in Philadelphia. The competition involves the construction of massive structures made entirely from canned food products, which are acquired through fundraising efforts. Following the event, all canned food products are donated to local food banks. If you would like to join the team or are interested in donating, please email **Chris Gray** at [cgray@timhaahs.com](mailto:cgray@timhaahs.com). Stay tuned for more details.

Additionally, the YMF is planning events for a **Winter Social** (late January) and a **Boeing Helicopter Factory Conversion Tour** (February). Details on these events are forthcoming.

We hope to see you out at these events!

For a compiled list of some additional Engineering events happening in the area, please visit the event calendar on the Engineers Club of Philadelphia’s website.

## AND, DON’T MISS OUT ON...

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit the Section website or see the separate article in this edition to learn about different scholarship opportunities.

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

### WALSH ELECTED VP OF MASITE

Section Vice President **Jenn Walsh** was recently elected to a position with the same title at the Mid-Colonial District of the **Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)**. Congrats to Jenn on now having to wear two Vice President “hats” and best of luck with this position.

### STOVER JOINS JBC

**JBC Associates, Inc.** is pleased to announce that Section Past President **Brian A. Stover, P.E., CCM**, has joined the firm as Senior Vice President. Brian has over 30 years experience in the construction management industry. At JBC, he will serve as the leader of the Construction Management Services operation, with responsibility for business development and growth, technical oversight, quality assurance, financial management, staffing and planning.

Brian is on the Board of Governors of the Construction Management Certification Institute (CMCI) of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA), and is past President of local chapters for CMAA, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the American Society of Highway Engineers. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and is a licensed Professional Engineer in eight states.

### HAHNS HONORED BY KSEA

In August, the **Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA)** conducted its annual awards ceremony at its national summit. Among the eight awardees recognized was **Tim Haahs**, who was cited as the Entrepreneur of the Year, sponsored by Maeil Business News & TV. Congratulations to Tim on yet another honor – you may recall he was the recipient of our Section’s Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year award, presented to him at the Spring Social in May.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

*Continued from Page 3*

Submittal Deadline:

- Applications (**including recommendations**) must be submitted by **January 31, 2012**.
- Scholarship winners will be notified by February 27, 2012.
- Applications and recommendations should be submitted by mail or email to:  
Mr. Jeff Bade, Scholarship Committee Chair  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
215 South 16th St., Suite 16  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
[jbade@hardesty-hanover.com](mailto:jbade@hardesty-hanover.com)  
(609) 538-8233

### SECTION MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

At least one \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Section an undergraduate Civil Engineering student who is the child of an active Philadelphia Section member and meets the following requirements.

# ANACE\*

## PISA EXPERT SAYS BIG BEN LEANING

Whether the British parliament is leaning to the left or right depends on your point of view but Big Ben is officially tilting. And surveyors say it is getting worse.

A new report has found the top of the famous clock tower, which stands above the parliament in central London, is now just under half a meter off perpendicular. That is so far off that experts believe the tilt is visible to the naked eye.

“The tilt is now just about visible,” said John Burland, a senior research investigator from Imperial College London who has worked on Big Ben and the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

“You can see it if you stand on Parliament Square and look east, towards the river. I have heard tourists there taking photographs saying ‘I don’t think it is quite vertical’ — and they are quite right,” he told the Sunday *Telegraph*. “If it started greater acceleration, we would have to look at doing something but I don’t think we need to do anything for a few years yet.”

Civil Engineers believe the tower is sinking more quickly on the north side than the south side of the Palace of Westminster. Monitoring instruments have suggested the tilt has increased by about a centimeter a year since 2003, about 40 per cent faster than the long-term average.

The tower is now leaning towards the northwest at an angle of 0.26 degrees, meaning the top of the tower is 43.5 cm from vertical. It would take another 4000 years or so for it to match the angle of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, which leans by about four degrees.

The problem has been blamed on decades of building work around the foot of the 96-meter, 11-story structure since completion in 1858. These have ranged from a sewer built for a tube line and an underground car park for Members of Parliament in the 1970s.

Thanks to the *Associated Press* for this item.

\*ANACE – Almost Nothing About or Concerning Engineering

Eligibility Requirements:

- The applicant must be the child of an active Philadelphia Section member.
- The applicant must be matriculating in a full-time Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program at an accredited college or university.
- The applicant must be an active participant in the ASCE Student Chapter at his/her school.
- The applicant must be in their sophomore or junior year (and Pre-Juniors at Drexel).
- A letter of recommendation from a faculty member of the candidate’s Civil Engineering program (other than his/her advisor), or a present or past employer, is required.

Application requirements and submittal deadline are the same as for the Student Scholarship above.

*We encourage all eligible students to apply.*

*Good luck!*

## TECHNICAL GROUPS/CHAIRS

Information on the ASCE, Philadelphia Section's Technical Groups is given below. Director **Keith Yamatani** will be coordinating the 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 GEO-INSTITUTE (DVGI)

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215-390-2157  
bill\_petersen@urscorp.com

### ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

A new Group Chair will be announced shortly.

### ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES

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610-630-1660  
edonofrio@esdesignllc.com

### STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE (SEI)

Dr. Mohiuddin Ali Khan  
JMT Inc.  
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Trenton, NJ, 08648  
609-512-3415  
mohidin@temple.edu

### TRANSPORTATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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530 Walnut Street, 14th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
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wthomsen@urbanengineers.com

## WE WELCOME ASCE NATIONAL PRESIDENT ANDREW HERRMANN

On October 21, at the ASCE National Conference, **President Andrew W. Herrmann, P.E., SECB, F.ASCE**, was officially inaugurated. His inaugural address focused on what Civil Engineers do best, looking back at what led him into the field from his childhood, and what his main initiatives as President will be.

As he noted, Civil Engineers solve problems – and we're good at it!

For a video and the printed address, please visit <http://www.asce.org/About-ASCE/Presidents-Page/2012/Andrew-W--Herrmann,-2012-ASCE-President-%E2%80%93-Video-Profile,-Inaugural-Address/>.

## SPONSOR PROFILE

### GEOSTRUCTURES CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Being at the forefront of Geotechnical Engineering, GeoStructures, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, continues a tradition of excellence by distinguishing itself among a handful of companies nationwide with capabilities in conducting state-of-the-art dynamic soil-structure interaction analysis for improved foundation design to resist earthquakes and support machines.

Through the years, GeoStructures has worked hard to set itself apart by emphasizing subsurface characterization and attentiveness in developing creative, technically sound and site-specific design and construction solutions. It offers a broad range of services in the Geotechnical Engineering and construction monitoring fields, including subsurface investigations and foundation design, finite element analysis and design of subsurface structures, lime and cement stabilization, pavement design and rehabilitation, soil improvement technologies, sinkhole evaluation and remediation, and more. The firm works chiefly with large engineering and architectural companies as well as municipal and state entities. Over 70 percent of its work is repeat business, which underscores the value and service that GeoStructures brings to its clients and their projects.

About half of GeoStructures' workload consists of infrastructure, such as highways, bridges, and public works projects; various types of commercial, institutional and industrial buildings make up the remaining half. Nearly 80 percent of the company's activities are carried out in greater Philadelphia, New Jersey, Delaware, New York and Maryland. Recently, however, several vibration analysis and simulation assignments have taken GeoStructures to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, Washington, DC and Marlborough, MA. GeoStructures also carried out several foundation design projects for dry mortar plants and cement silos in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

An integral part of the company's mission is to educate the public about the value of Engineering and forge a united stand among fellow Engineers. In an increasingly specialized and competitive business, the GeoStructures team works diligently on keeping up to date with the latest technologies, serving on national committees, following current developments in the field, publishing project findings and research in academic and industry journals, and contributing to advancing the state of practice.

"If we become ordinary, we lose our competitive edge," says **Bashar Qubain, Ph.D., P.E.**, Company President and Chief Engineer. GeoStructures chooses to exceed industry standards and maintain an edge by providing unique services and advanced expertise. "It is all about how our knowledge and experience can best serve our clients." GeoStructures believes that the quality of the process is as important as the quality of the service they provide.


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Philadelphia, PA 19103  
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Keith S. Yamatani, PE  
Sr Geotechnical/Civil Engineer  
610-430-7866  
kyamatani@kleinfelder.com

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[haascn@drexel.edu](mailto:haascn@drexel.edu)

**Dr. Kurt Sjoblom**  
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