



PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 16, Philadelphia, PA 19102 Telephone/Reservations: (215) 985-5703 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

Vol. 84-9

# IT'S A WRAP — GONE FISHIN' (?)

The 2011-12 season is nearly complete, and this will be the last edition of *THE NEWS* for this season. The Editor and production staff of *THE NEWS* will take a well-deserved (?) break to shut down the virtual presses and do some virtual maintenance and fine tuning on them. We will resume again in force for our 100th anniversary season in the fall, so look for us to reappear somewhere in the latter part of September.

And, as we have done over the past couple of years, the Editor being a bit of an "antsy" person who can't seem to stay non-busy for extended periods, we'll come out of our self-imposed hiatus sometime in early summer to crank out an abbreviated edition of *THE NEWS* for your awareness and possible enjoyment, after which we'll once again go into exile to warm up for our 100th season. Not to worry – our website never sleeps or takes a rest, so that will always be available for your information and updates.

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

# 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY LOGO

As we introduced in the April edition of *THE NEWS*, we have a logo that will be used during our 100th Anniversary season, which will kick off at our **Spring Social** on **May 18** (see the separate article on this). Thanks to **Laura Frein** of Michael Baker Jr., Inc., who developed and submitted this logo. As our reward, Laura will receive the promised two complimentary tickets to all ASCE, Philadelphia Section-hosted events during our anniversary season.

# Our 99th Year

May 2012

# 2012 SPRING SOCIAL We Kick Off Our 100th Anniversary Celebration at an Engineering Landmark! FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2012

The Water Works Restaurant • 640 Water Works Drive Adjacent to the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center (a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark)

on the banks of the Schuylkill River, near the Museum of Art, adjacent to Boat House Row www.thewaterworksrestaurant.com

The Social will start at 7:00 PM with a cocktail hour (cash bar), followed by dinner. As usual, the "official" events of the evening will include the the installation of new Section officers, the presentation of Section awards, and the recognition of our Delaware Valley Science Fairs awardees. We hope you will be able to join us and enjoy an evening of good food, good friends, networking and socializing, as we start the celebration of our 100th Anniversary season.

The cost of the Social will be \$60 per attendee, with a discounted rate of \$30 for government agency employees and students. Valet parking will be available for those who desire it (\$10).

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MAY 4**. 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, 215-985-5703, 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.



Winners of the Science Fairs (L to R): Three of our ASCE, Phila. Section's four winners at the Delaware Valley Science Fairs were able to attend the awards ceremony at the Fairs on April 5. Past President and Science Fairs judge Chris Rood is shown with Jessica Oriente, Grades 9-12 Second Place recipient, Daniel Barlow, Grades 6-8 First Place winner, and Ryan Meehan, Grades 6-8 Second Place awardee.

# Anniversary ASCEPHILADELPHIA



#### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

On April 12 (my birthday!), our Board gathered for the last time under my Presidency. Last April, at our Board meeting—my predecessor Tom Brady's last as President—someone said that at my last meeting, I should bring champagne and chocolate-covered strawberries. Well, they weren't chocolate-covered, but I did bring the strawberries—and, of course, the champagne.

The meeting was bittersweet for me: I'm ready to pass the gavel to my überqualified successor, **Jeremy Colello**, but I'll sure miss working with this

Board. I know you may know some of the Board members from your meeting attendance, but you may not realize that they're Board members, and you might not know how much of their personal time they dedicate to the ASCE, Phila. Section. They make it look easy! I want to thank Jeremy Colello, Jenn Walsh, Guy DiMartino, AnnMarie Vigilante, Cathy Farrell, Ted Thomson, Spencer Finch, Eve D'Onofrio, Marc Preim, Vicki Brown, Keith Yamatani, and Jeremy Chrzan, as well as Bob Wright, our all-around good guy and newsletter editor. Because Bob has been involved with the Section and the Board for so many years, he brings the historical perspective. In other words, we often turn to Bob and say, "Now, how do we do this?" I've sent many emails to Bob seeking advice. I feel as though I'm just getting the hang of being President.

We've accomplished every single goal we set for ourselves at last summer's Board retreat. Here's the roster, along with their leaders:

1. Continuing Education PDHs-Cathy Farrell

Cathy and her team (Bob Wright, Vicki Brown, Eve D'Onofrio, and Ted Thomson) have digested the Continuing Ed requirements for PA and NJ and have developed a process for signing out at meetings, distributing certificates, and uploading the sign-out sheets to the web for your future reference, should you be audited.

2. 100th Anniversary Planning-Jenn Walsh

Jenn and her team (Ted Thomson, Bob Wright, Jeremy Colello, Vicki Brown, Tom Brady, Soheila Rahbari, and AnnMarie Vigilante) are planning not just a gala next May, but a series of events, some of them family-oriented, beginning this summer. Watch your email for further information.

3. Good Topics and Speakers at Monthly Meetings-Jeremy Colello

Jeremy and his team (Keith Yamatani, Marc Preim, Eve D'Onofrio, Ali Khan, and Spencer Finch) have put on some of our best meetings ever, and have worked closely with other societies to have joint meetings.

#### 4. Speakers' Bureau—Bob Wright

Bob and his team (John Zarsky and Ann Tomalavage) have been working closely with the Engineers' Club to provide civil engineers for their Speakers' Bureau, so don't be surprised if Bob sidles up to you at a meeting and asks you to be a speaker.

5. Infrastructure Outreach—Ann Tomalavage

My team (John Zarsky, Spencer Finch, and Bob Wright) have developed a presentation we can take to civic groups such as chambers of commerce, Lions, and Rotary, because we feel very strongly that the best way to get our elected officials to move on infrastructure spending is to educate the public about the issues and exhort them to pressure their senators and representatives. If you are a member of a civic group and would like us to present this talk, please contact me at ann@malarkey.us

6. Increase Government Employee Attendance-Bob Wright

Bob and his team (Ruben David, Darin Gatti, Guy DiMartino, Jeremy Chrzan, and Marc Preim) have increased government employee attendance by getting the word out through networking and by figuring out how to allow for differential attendance fees when government employees sign up on our website.

I realize this has been a long letter, but I wanted to show you all the wonderful things our Board has been working on behind the scenes. Please join me in thanking them. My best wishes to Jeremy and his Board as they plan for and manage our 100th year!

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

# IF I HAVE SEEN FARTHER THAN OTHERS, IT IS BECAUSE I HAVE STOOD ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS.

– Sir Isaac Newton

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

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

**PRESIDENT ELECT** Jeremy Colello, Pennoni Associates, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT Jennifer K. Walsh, McMahon Associates, Inc.

SECRETARY AnnMarie L. Vigilante, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

**TREASURER** Guy DiMartino, Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.

ASSISTANT TREASURER Joseph Platt, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

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

#### DIRECTORS

Vicki L. Brown, Widener University ('11-'13) Eve D'Onofrio, ES Design LLC ('11-'13) Spencer Finch, Pennsylvania Environmental Council ('10-'12) Marc Preim, STV ('11-'12) Theodore Thomson, Pennoni Associates ('10-'12) Keith Yamatani, Kleinfelder ('11-'13)

PAST PRESIDENTS Thomas W. Brady, RK&K Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, Flow Science, Inc. Mark J. Tiger, Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

PRESIDENT, READING BRANCH E. J. Walsh, McCarthy Engineering

President – Ann M. Tomalavage, P.E.

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ASCE, c/o Engineers' Club of Philadelphia 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 16 Philadelphia, PA 19102

> COPY DEADLINE FOR SUMMER 2012 ISSUE JUNE 25, 2012

# TWO FINALISTS TAPPED FOR 2013 ASCE NATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES

The ASCE National Board of Direction's Nominating Committee has narrowed the field for candidates for 2013 National President-Elect from four to two. When ballots are sent to the membership this summer, you will be asked to choose between these two esteemed gentlemen:

**Randall S. Over, P.E., F.ASCE**, district construction engineer for the Ohio Department of Transportation, based in the Cleveland area.

Garland P. Rose Jr., P.E., D.WRE, F.ASCE, chairman emeritus of Barge Waggoner Sumner and Canon of Nashville, TN, now retired.

For more information on each of these candidates, please visit **www.asce.org/election** and read the in-depth profiles from ASCE *News*. New podcast interviews with each candidate will be conducted and posted for listening and downloading.

The election opens June 15 and closes August 14. Eligible voters at the membership grade of Associate or higher must be current with ASCE dues as of May 15 to be able to vote. Students and Affiliate Members are not eligible. Online voting credentials will be e-mailed in June, so be sure your membership profile includes a valid e-mail address. To comment on the election and the nominees, please write to **board@asce.org**.

#### **PAST PRESIDENTS HONORED IN APRIL**

It has become another in a series of ASCE, Phila. Section traditions to honor our Past Section Presidents at our April meeting. Each April, we invite them to come out, be recognized, and enjoy a dinner courtesy of the Section (not necessarily in that order of priorities!) to cite their contributions to the Section. Some of our Past Presidents are virtual "fixtures" at our meetings, and some only attend occasionally because of their busy schedules, but in any event, we are always happy to see them.

This year, we were pleased to see 11 of them taking the time to be at the April meeting:

C.R. "Chuck" Pennoni, 1978-79 Joseph Syrnick, 1980-81 William Malarkey, 1983-84 J. Richard Weggel, 1989-90 Klaus Fuelleborn, 1992-93 Robert Wright, 1993-94 William Thomsen, 1994-95 Faruq Siddiqui, 1999-2000 Thomas Branigan, 2000-01 Chris Rood, 2001-02 Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, 2009-10

Thanks to the newest member of the group, **Tom Brady** (2010-11), for contacting the Past Presidents and getting them to come out. Tom was unable to attend himself.

# SECTION AT SCIENCE FAIRS — OUR 19<sup>th</sup> YEAR

We are not sure when something officially becomes a tradition, but having participated in the Delaware Valley Science Fairs for 19 years, we believe our ASCE, Phila. Section has established a tradition of service at the Fairs. A generation is generally accepted to be a 20-year period, so when we return to the Fairs next year, we'll be able to say we've spent a generation there (?).

Our small (two-man) complement of judges headed to the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks on April 4 to spend the day assessing the nearly 900 individual student projects on display at the Fairs to find those worthy of our Section's honors.

The projects at the Fairs are generally divided into specialty areas, one of which is Engineering. As our judges have found, however, Engineeringrelated projects can also be classified under just about of the other subareas such as environmental, physics, mathematics, and even behavioral science, so our judges have to carefully review the contestants to ensure that a good engineering effort isn't "hidden" somewhere else. Our intrepid judges did manage to find enough entries to make the decision somewhat difficult. (And it is rarely an easy decision to start with!) After a lot of reviewing and a lot of walking, the judges 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: Daniel Barlow, North Coventry Elementary School, Pottstown – "Windtricity' – Does the Amount of Blades and Their Length Affect How Much Electricity a Wind Turbine Generates?"

*GRADES 6-8 SECOND PLACE*: **Ryan Meehan**, Notre Dame School, Vineland, NJ – "Why Are Triangles Important in a Design of a Bridge?"

GRADES 9-12 FIRST PLACE – Catherine Messina, Villa Joseph Marie School, Holland – "Fighting Seismic Activity"

*GRADES 9-12 SECOND PLACE*: Jessica Oriente, Villa Joseph Marie School, Holland – "Buckling Bridges" (You may recall that Jessica took First Place honors last year with her experiment on "Swaying Bridges")

Past President and "chief judge" **Chris Rood**, the ASCE, Phila. Section's long-time coordinator of the judging for the Fairs (and a Bridge Engineer – could you tell?), attended the award ceremony on April 5 and presented commemorative plaques and checks to the winning students. Past President **Bob Wright** assisted Chris with the project evaluations and judging at the Fairs.

The First Place winners have been invited to attend the Spring Social, as we usually do, and we hope they will be able to attend so the rest of us can see the engineers of the future and allow them to display their winning efforts.

More information on the Fairs can be found at **www.drexel.edu/dvsf**.

# SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION – 2012–13 SEASON

At the Spring Social on May 18, the Section's officers and Board members for the current season will be officially installed. This slate was that recommended as a result of a meeting of the Nominating Committee and any nominations made from the membership. They are as follows: *PRESIDENT:* Jeremy D. Colello, Pennoni

Associates, Inc.

*PRESIDENT ELECT:* Jennifer K. Walsh, McMahon Associates Inc.

*VICE PRESIDENT:* Joseph Platt, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

SECRETARY: AnnMarie L. Vigilante, Langan Engineering & Environmental Sciences

*TREASURER:* Guy DiMartino, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.

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

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Ali Khan, JMT ('12-'14)

Marc Preim, STV ('12-'14)

Keith Yamatani, Kleinfelder ('11-'13)

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Ann M. Tomalavage, Malarkey Consulting

Thomas W. Brady, RK & K

Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, Flow Science, Inc. *PRESIDENT, READING BRANCH:* 

E. J. Walsh, McCarthy Engineering

With the passage of the new Constitution and Bylaws, only the immediate Past President will serve on the Board, and only for a one-year term.

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

# MEMBERS IN THE NEWS BRADY JOINS RK&K

Past Section President Thomas W. Brady, P.E. has joined RK&K as a Project Manager in the firm's Valley Forge office. Tom brings more than 18 years of diverse transportation experience to this position. He holds degrees in Civil Engineering from Drexel University (BS-1993) and from Villanova University (MS-1999) and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. Tom has been involved with ASCE since starting at Drexel in 1988. Tom served the ASCE, Phila. Section on the Younger Member Forum Board and also created its logo. In 2005, he was named the Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year and our Section's Young Engineer of the Year. We wish Tom well at his new position.

#### **APRIL JOINT DINNER MEETING**

April 12, 2012

Villanova Conference Center, Radnor, PA Three Breakout Sessions

by Robert Wright, Editor

For the third time in a row, April's meeting found us at the Villanova Conference Center in idyllic Delaware County, where over 90 attendees came out on a nice spring day to hear one of three topics being offered for their enjoyment and edification that evening. The topics offered some tough choices, with good subjects and able presenters:

• Ensuring Sustainable Water Resources in the Delaware River Basin, presented by Carol Collier, Executive Director of the Delaware River Basin (sponsored by the Environmental and Water Resources Technical Group)

• Promoting Green Building and Role of Philadelphia 2013 International Conference, with Heather Shayne Blakeslee, Deputy Director for Operations, Programs and Community, Delaware Valley Green Buildings Council as the speaker (sponsored by the Structural Engineering Institute)

# MANAGING MUNICIPAL STORMWATER WORKSHOP

On Monday, May 7, a Municipal Stormwater Management Workshop will be held to help municipalities, municipal Engineers and community planners implement new cost effective stormwater management practices. This program was developed in partnership between Penn State Extension, Cumberland County Conservation District, Cumberland County Planning Department, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership and USDA Forest Service. The workshop will take place from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Cumberland County Service Center which is located at 310 Allen Road in Carlisle. Registration Fee is \$35 per person if received by April 27. To register online go to http://agsci.psu.edu/ municipal-stormwater/carlisle.

Registration deadline is May 1 and seating is limited. Certificates of Attendance will be issued for Engineer PDH Credits.

Dr. Robert G. Traver, Professor and Director, Villanova Center for the Advancement of Sustainability in Engineering, Villanova Urban Stormwater Partnership is one of the featured speakers. He will be speaking on Sustainable Design and Best Management Practices for Urban/ Suburban Stormwater. Additional speakers will include Dr. Paul DeBarry, NTM Engineering, Inc., Dr. William Elmendorf, Penn State Community Forestry Professor, and Vincent Cotrone, Penn State Extension. Information on the Cumberland County Stormwater Management Plan will be presented by Jeff Kelly, Assistant Director with the Cumberland County Planning Department. In the afternoon, Cumberland County Conservation District staff will conduct a walking tour of installed stormwater best management practices.

• Geotechnical Investigations, Design and Monitoring of a Landfill and MSE Berm over Soft Mine Backfill, presented by Frank Adams of Golder Associates (sponsored by the Delaware Valley Geo-Institute)

Section President **Ann Tomalavage** welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, with a blessing of the meal offered by Past National and Section President Chuck Pennoni, and the buffet dinner followed.

A number of Past Presidents of the Section were in attendance and were honored as part of the evening's features. (Please see the separate article on this.) President Tomalavage called those in attendance to the front for recognition.

President Tomalavage and Membership Secretary **Cathy Farrell** welcomed the incoming "class" of Life Members and presented each of those presented with their Life Member certificates. (Please see the separate article on this.)

President-Elect **Jeremy Colello** made several announcements on items, including the date and location of the upcoming Spring Social (please see the separate announcement on this) and other activities in the works for the Section's 100th Anniversary celebration, which will kick off at the Social.

President Tomalavage closed the evening's business to dismiss attendees to their separate technical meeting of choice. Since it was her birthday, the attendees cited President Tomalavage with a "rousing" (?) singing of "Happy Birthday."

# ...AND THANKS AGAIN TO OUR SPONSORS !

As you have seen, the ASCE, Phila. Section Sponsorship Program was once again popular this season, with 19 firms participating in it. We extend our special and collective **THANKS** to each sponsor for their financial commitment and support.

Sponsor logos have also been included in a special Sponsors section of our website, in addition to their business cards published in each edition of *THE NEWS*. This year, we provided direct links from the Section's website to the sponsors' to allow folks to visit these websites and review potential employment openings and positions.

Of course, the key to success is repetition (or something like that), so we'll be contacting current sponsors later this summer to see if they'll go again in 2012–13. We hope the program will be as successful then as well.

Our sponsorship program will be slightly revamped for next season to allow firms to help sponsor and support the various events planned to celebrate our 100th Anniversary. More details on this will be provided in the Summer edition of *THE NEWS* and on our website.

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

# UPDATE ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS NEW JERSEY LICENSE RENEWAL WILL REQUIRE PDH'S

As you may be aware, professional engineers, land surveyors and geologists in Pennsylvania are required to obtain continued professional development (CPD) credit to renew their licenses. This is effective as of October 1, 2009 and was a requirement for your license renewal this past October. The specifics for PE's, LS's and PG's are available on the Department of State's website at **www.dos.state.pa.us/eng** for your information.

New Jersey has also instituted requirements for continuing education effective January 12, 2011. A current licensee shall be required to obtain 15 continuing professional competency credits during the licensure period ending on April 30, 2012. Two of these credits must be in professional practice ethics. This will be required for license holders to renew for the 2012-14 licensing period.

Please visit the New Jersey State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website for more information on this (**www. nj.gov/lps/ca/pels/pels\_licensee.htm**). It appears that the New Jersey Board is no longer formally pre-approving coursework and meetings, as it had when the requirement initially went into effect, and our meetings will apparently be acceptable to be counted for such credit for your New Jersey licenses. We will keep you updated of any changes that may occur here.

As a rule, meetings and technical events sponsored by our ASCE, Phila. Section are eligible to be counted for your professional development requirements in states that do NOT require pre-approval and/or endorsement. If we sponsor a meeting that, in our opinion, will NOT meet the PDH requirement, we will clearly advise you of this in our meeting announcement. In most states, it remains the individual's responsibility to track and count professional development credit as it pertains to his or her requirements, and whether an event can count remains the judgement and decision of the individual. As you may be aware, this is subject to audit by the state licensing agency. Out issuing of certificates for PDH's is in part intended to assist anyone who is so audited. We advise members of our opinion of this for meetings, events, etc., but it is up to each member to make the ultimate and defendable decision on this.

As a reminder, we have a verification program in place to help you obtain and track your PDH's. Sign-in sheets are maintained on our website for your reference and use, and receipt certificates are provided following each meeting. Please remember to sign the sheet and take your certificate at the end of each meeting.

# **OBITUARY** JOSEPH KRULIKOWSKI

Longtime ASCE, Philadelphia Section member and recently installed (April 2011) ASCE Life Member, **Joe Krulikowski**, passed away on March 1. Services were held privately at the request of his family. We extend our condolences to his wife **Kathryn**, daughter **Kathleen**, son-in-law **Anthony** and his two grandchildren. Joe was active in the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, where he was a Past President, and the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, Philadelphia Chapter.

# REBUILDING PENNSYLVANIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE MONDAY, MAY 14, 3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM DREXEL UNIVERSITY

America's infrastructure system is vital to our future economic strength. Leading nonpartisan economists have been outspoken on the importance of strategic investment in infrastructure because research shows it puts people back to work now and grows the American economy for generations to come. Long-range funding solutions are not in place to address both current and future needs, and available amounts of funding at both the federal and state levels have been shown to be inadequate to keep our transportation systems in a proper condition for continued mobility and viability.

The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia (ECP) and our ASCE, Phila. Section have "joined forces" to schedule this important event in conjunction with Drexel University. We have invited two of our elected officials who have taken strong stands on this subject to inform us of their ideas and proposals to develop and stimulate direly-needed continued and increased investment in our infrastructure. We look for you to join us to hear what they have to say and be a part of this discussion.

SPEAKERS: Hon. Allyson Schwartz, United States Congress, House of Representatives; Hon. Michael Stack, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Senate

MODERATOR: C.R. "Chuck" Pennoni, Chairman, Pennoni Associates, Inc. (Past President, ECP, and Past Section President)

The event will be conducted in the **Gallery Room**, Main Building, **Drexel University** (3141 Chestnut Street). Light refreshments will be served, courtesy of Drexel.

There is no charge for this event, but seating is limited. Please contact the **Engineers' Club** (reservations@engrclub.org, 215-985-5703) to confirm your attendance or for additional information.

We hope to see you there.

# **ANACE\*** THE REAL REASON THERE ARE NO SKYSCRAPERS IN THE MIDDLE OF MANHATTAN

Among the reasons New York may arguably have the finest skyline in the world is not simply the skyscrapers bounding up the island of Manhattan but also their unusual arrangement. Like a great mountain range, the city is arrayed around the twin peaks of Downtown and Midtown.

It turns out that Manhattan has a bedrock unusually suited to the construction of very tall buildings (and not so good for the construction of subways!), in many cases just a few meters below the surface. But that solid land drops away in the gooey middle of the island, long limiting the heights of buildings in the city. This idea, first proposed in 1968, has recently been challenged by economists from Fordham University, who published a study in the December issue of The Journal of Economic History debunking the so-called Manhattan bedrock myth.

Using 173 random core samples from the Battery to Central Park South, they were able to show that there was no correlation between the depth of bedrock and the likelihood of a skyscraper's construction - in the case of their study, a building at or above 18 stories, which was tall for the time when the city's two business districts developed between 1890 and 1915. What they found was that some of the tallest buildings of their day were built around City Hall, where the bedrock reaches its deepest point in the city, about 45 meters down, between there and Canal Street, at which point the bedrock begins to rise again toward the middle of the island. Indeed, Joseph Pullitzer built his recordsetting New York World Building, a 349-foot colossus, at 99 Park Row, near the nadir, as did Frank Woolworth a decade later.

By studying historical construction data, the researchers were also able to determine that at the extreme, the most a deep bedrock could add to the costs of a building is about 7 percent, and therefore negligible when it comes to the economics of construction. So why the Midtown migration? Simply, the wealthy and the middle class moved north over time – thus, it had more to do with the old real estate idea of "location, location, location" than geology.

Thanks to the *New York Observer* for this information.

# NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE. Some things are just Less likely than others.

- Jonathan Winters

#### DID THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT SINK OR TILT?

As you may recall, the Washington Monument cracked and crumbled when a 5.8-magnitude earthquake shook the nation's capital in August. But did it sink or tilt? A team of government surveyors is trying to find out.

Surveyors took readings on the grounds of the 555-foot-tall obelisk in March, using nearby bench marks as their reference points. They did not expect to find any major changes, but the findings could affect plans for repairing the monument, which is expected to remain closed to visitors until next year.

The Monument is roughly 15 feet above sea level at its base, and has settled about 2 inches since its completion in 1884. It is on land that was once underwater - most of the National Mall was created with soil dredged from the nearby Potomac River – which has led to similar problems at the Jefferson Memorial and the Reflecting Pool.

Several large cracks and dozens of smaller ones formed in the top portion of the Monument during and following the August 23 earthquake, and chunks of stone were shaken loose on the exterior and interior of the structure. Although it remains structurally sound, repairs are expected to cost at least \$15 million, and the Monument could remain closed until the repair work is completed.

Although the survey could determine whether the Monument has tilted, that will very likely not be known until examiners place a globalpositioning device on the top of the structure, which last happened in 1999. That will not occur until repairs are underway.

Results of the survey should be available early this summer.

Thanks to the Associated Press for this information.

\*ANACE – Almost Nothing About or Concerning Engineering

# MEMBERS IN THE NEWS RADBILL NOW AT HILL

The Chair of our Section's Engineering Management Group, **Mike Radbill**, has recently accepted a position at Hill International. Mike brings a wealth of experience in construction management, claims management and training to his new "spot" at Hill. He was most recently at Urban Engineers where he led the firm's National Consulting Practice. Good luck, Mike!

#### HUMAN BEINGS ARE THE ONLY CREATURES ON THE EARTH THAT ALLOW THEIR CHILDREN TO COME BACK HOME.

– Bill Cosby

#### **POSITIONS OPEN AT TEMPLE**

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Temple University invites applicants for two positions.

One is a tenure track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor to begin in September. This will target areas of Geotechnical, Structural and Transportation Engineering. Candidates should demonstrate a strong scholarly record. Senior appointments will be considered for applicants with demonstrated scholarship, including a strong record of securing and performing externally funded research. Candidates with professional Engineering licensure or capable of obtaining one within a few years of joining Temple are preferred. The successful candidate will be required to excel in both undergraduate and graduate teaching, to develop a sponsored research program, and actively participate in supervision undergraduate and graduate students. Applicants must have completed a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering or a closely related field.

The second is a non-tenure track (teaching) position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor to begin in September. Candidates must possess an advanced degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering and previous experience teaching at the college or university level. Candidates must have a record of excellence in academic and professional achievements in Civil or Environmental Engineering with credentials appropriate for appointment at the rank desired. Candidates with professional Engineering licensure or capable of obtaining one within a few years of joining Temple are preferred. The successful candidate will be expected to teach undergraduate environmental courses, advise undergraduate students and coordinate The Environment course, offered under the University-wide General Education Program, which enrolls approximately 900 students every semester.

The salaries and start-up packages are highly competitive and significant resources have been allocated for these hires. Review of applications will start immediately and continue until the positions are filled. Detailed information about the University, College, and the Department can be obtained at **www.temple.edu/engineering**.

The application must be submitted as one PDF file to **ceed@temple.edu**. Applicants must submit curriculum vitae, statements of teaching and research interests and goals, and the names and addresses of four references to Chair, Civil Faculty Search Committee, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Temple University, 1947 N. 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122.

Temple University is an equal opportunity/ affirmative action employer. Applications from women and minorities are strongly encouraged.

#### LIFE MEMBERS HONORED IN APRIL

Life Membership in ASCE is a major milestone in a member's tenure. To achieve Life Membership, one must: 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.

Our Section welcomed a total of 15 newlyminted Life Members to our ranks earlier this year: Fred Akl Richard Daniels Christopher Harding David Howell Leon Israel Robert Keyser Thomas Luglio William Malarkey Jeffrey May Thomas May Joseph McAtee Richard Rowe David Staplin Raymond Tiegs

Fred Walker

We were pleased to be able to have Dr. Akl, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Luglio, Mr. Malarkey, Mr. and Mrs. Thom May, and Mr. McAtee in attendance at the April ASCE, Phila. 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.

# CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SHORT COURSE

Plan now to attend the Penn State short course on **Computational Methods in Stormwater Management**, being offered on **May 30** and **June 1**, at **The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel** in State College, PA.

Please note that participants must bring a laptop computer to this short course. The user must have administrative rights to the computer so that the VT/PSUHM software can be installed. A time for advance software installation will be provided on May 29 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Only MS Windows–based laptop computers will be supported, using Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 7. Microsoft Excel 2003 or 2010 is also required. Attendees who cannot bring a laptop may rent one for an additional cost.

A limited number of rooms at the group price have been set aside at The Penn Stater. Reservations must be made by April 30, using reservation ID number: STOF12A.

We hope to see you at the short course! Please contact the Outreach Marketing and Communications Group at Penn State (800-778-8632 or **posting@outreach.psu.edu**) for additional information on this event.

# 2012 SECTION AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT SPRING SOCIAL

As is our usual custom, this year's Section Awards will be presented at the Annual Spring Social and Dinner Dance on May 18. Information and details on the Social are given elsewhere in THE NEWS.

A total of six Award recipients have been nominated for these honors and approved by the Section Board of Directors. The honorees are:

- Joe Martin, Drexel University Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year
- Jeremy Chrzan, Pennoni Associates Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer of the Year
- **Dick Mabry**, GAI Consultants Geotechnical Engineer of the Year
- Bob Milliken, Underground Services Engineering Manager of the Year
- Eve D'Onofrio, E S Design LLC Environmental/Water Resources Engineer of the Year
- Mark Gale, Philadelphia International Airport Government Service Award

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

When we return in the 2012-13 season, in the October edition of *THE NEWS*, we will present more information on the awardees as well as a detailed report on the Social.

# ASCE INFRASTRUCTURE DAY IN HARRISBURG

Once again, the four Pennsylvania Sections of ASCE will participate in a visit to state legislators. **Infrastructure Day** will take place in Harrisburg on **Tuesday, May 8**. Your participation and voice are needed to let our legislators know how important the infrastructure issue is to our economy and our daily lives. The Pennsylvania sections of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE), and the Mid-Atlantic Section, Institute of Transportation Engineers, along with other groups, will be represented.

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

If you are planning to attend, please register at **www.surveymonkey.com/infrastructure day 2012**.

With the prospect of reduced funding for transportation infrastructure, in spite of the growing needs, and no new resources in sight, 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.

# **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)**

William K. Petersen URS Corporation 335 Commerce Drive Fort Washington, PA 19034 215-390-2157 bill.petersen@urscorp.com

#### **ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT**

Michael E. Radbill Hill International 30 S. 15th Street, Suite 1300 Philadelphia, PA 19102 215-496-4926 MichaelRadbill@hillintl.com

#### **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 ENGINEERING INSTITUTE (SEI)**

Dr. Mohiuddin Ali Khan JMT Inc. 1200 Lenox Drive, Suite 101 Trenton, NJ, 08648 609-512-3415 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

# SOME PEOPLE ARE MAKING SUCH THOROUGH PREPARATIONS FOR RAINY DAYS THAT THEY AREN'T ENJOYING TODAY'S SUNSHINE.

– William Feather

#### **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

#### CRITICAL ISSUES SEMINAR TUESDAY, MAY 1 — SAVE THE DATE!

The YMF will be hosting a panel-lead discussion on "Bridging the Generation Gap" at **Elephant & Castle** (in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 18th and Market Streets, Center City) from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Attendance is FREE. RSVP and event information will be included on our website (**www.ymfphilly.org**).

Our industry is comprised of Engineers of varying personal and professional experiences, with each generation bringing different experiences to the design table. Some of the topics that will be discussed are: how each generation has made their mark on the industry, perceptions and misperceptions between different generations of Engineers, and resolving intergenerational issues. The panelists will be:

**Chris Crockett, PhD, P.E.**, Deputy Commissioner, Planning and Environmental Services, Philadelphia Water Dept.

Edward M. D'Alba, P.E., President and CEO of Urban Engineers

**Cathy Farrell, P.E.**, Project Engineer, Michael Baker Jr.

Allison Sedor, EIT, Associate Engineer, Pennoni Spencer Stevens, Student, Villanova RSVP's are due by April 27.

#### YMF BOARD ELECTIONS - MAY

The YMF will be hosting an **Election Happy Hour**, on **May 30** at the **City Tap House** in University City from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. If you are interested in becoming an active member of the YMF, then consider joining our board for the 2012-13 year. Information about the various board positions can be found on our website (**www. ymfphilly.org**). Please contact **Jeremy Chrzan** at **jchrzan@pennoni.com** by May 18 if you are interested in being considered for a board position. YMF terms begin in June and last one-year.

#### PHILLIES VS. BRAVES — AUGUST 8

Come celebrate the 2012 season with our neighboring YMF chapters by watching the Phillies take on the Braves. Ticket price of \$17 includes tailgate and discount from regularly priced tickets. See the event flyer for more details. Click here to RSVP.

Also, 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 (**www.engrclub.org**).

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The YMF board meets monthly to develop new events and several are currently in the works. Check back frequently for updates. To keep up-to-date on all our upcoming events, sign up to join our mailing list by emailing our Secretary at secretary@ymfphilly.org.



# THE NEWS

May 2012





AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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