

ASCE, PHILA. SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2012-13

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section Meeting program for the upcoming season is starting to take shape. Our meeting program committee is busy lining up speakers and topics for what we hope will be an interesting and informative series of meetings. The TENTATIVE dates have been provided below for your planning purposes. We would suggest that you use this to mark your calendar at this time and hold the dates.

In coming issues of *THE NEWS*, this information will be “fine-tuned” to provide updates as they are available. We also suggest you visit the Section website for the latest changes in our meeting program. As we have done, each month’s edition of *THE NEWS* will feature detailed information on that month’s meeting along with as much information as is available for the following month’s meeting, and the “look-ahead” schedule will show details that are available at that time for your advance awareness.

We also noted the success of the varied locations of meetings and will continue to schedule a mix of Center City and suburban venues to make them as convenient as possible for you. More details will be provided on meeting locations as they are set.

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

The dates as of this printing, all in 2013, are:

2013

January 16 (NOTE: Wednesday) – joint meeting with American Society of Highway Engineers

February 14

March 14

April 11

May 4 (NOTE: Saturday) – annual Spring Social/
100th Anniversary Gala, Franklin Institute

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2012

Loews Hotel, Commonwealth Room, 1200 Market Street, Center City Philadelphia
Cocktails 5:30 PM • Dinner 6:30 PM • Meeting 7:30 PM

SUBJECT: Design of Livable Communities

SPEAKER: Todd Helmer, P.E., Vice President, TimHaahs

RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12. For reservations submitted by the deadline, the cost per attendee will be \$40, with a half-price (\$20) cost per government agency employee and students. Reservations received after the deadline and “walk-ups” without prior reservations paying at the door will be charged \$50 (government agency employees and students will be charged the regular \$20 rate), but 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.**

Checks should be made payable to “Philadelphia Section ASCE” and sent 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** or electronically through our website (**www.asce-philly.org**) and pay via PayPal. PLEASE NOTE THAT PayPal WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AS A PAYMENT OPTION AFTER THE RESERVATION DEADLINE.

MEETING LOCATION: Please note that the meeting will be held in the **Commonwealth Room** on the second floor of the **Loews Hotel** (this is NOT the same room in which the October meeting was held!).

Mr. Helmer will outline evolving considerations that continue to raise the bar for Civil Engineers. His presentation will examine two in-depth case studies that demonstrate the leadership role Civil Engineers play in creating more walkable and livable communities. In turn, this role directly reduces traffic congestion and parking-related issues while creating “people places.”

The first case study covers a high profile, award-winning project located in Atlantic City, NJ, “*The Wave*.” This facility is a mixed-use structure that serves as an attractive “gateway” to visitors arriving from the Atlantic City Expressway, provides parking and additional retail space to the area, and contributes to the revitalization of the adjacent retail district.

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DECEMBER JOINT DINNER MEETING

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section
Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia
Society of American Military Engineers, Philadelphia Post
Construction Management Association of America, Mid-Atlantic Chapter
(Sponsoring societies tentative as of presstime)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012

Loews Hotel, 12th & Market Streets, Center City Philadelphia
Cocktails 5:30 PM • Dinner 6:30 PM • Meeting 7:30 PM

SUBJECT: The Making of the Philadelphia Flower Show

SPEAKER: Sam Lemheny, Senior Vice President of Shows and Events, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Join Sam Lemheny for a lively behind-the-scenes look at the creation of the nation’s oldest and largest indoor flower show. Mr. Lemheny, now in his eighth year as designer, is a dynamic speaker,

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every year around this time, we have the opportunity to remind our elected officials of the importance of our infrastructure. In a few short days, we can use our voice, our collective voice as Civil Engineers and designers of the built environment to remind our officials of the critical condition of our infrastructure.

Every year in Pennsylvania, 300 bridges are added to the structurally deficient list. However, just 200 bridges are funded for replacement. In 2011, there were 954 reported broken water mains in the City of Philadelphia. Each year, approximately 11 of the 3,200 miles of water main in the city are replaced — with a 100 year design life.

It is our obligation to inform our elected officials as to the importance of clean water on public health, remind them of the value of a reliable power grid for business, and highlight the necessity of a suitable highway system for commerce. It appears that our elected officials have lost sight of those facts. It is our obligation, as the experts, to make our elected officials aware.

With that, I challenge our members to reach out with your votes. But don't stop there. Discuss with your parents and grandparents; kids and grandkids; nieces and nephews; aunts, uncles and cousins; friends and neighbors. With this outreach over the next few days, you can see how the influence of our 2,200 members can grow quickly.

Investing in our infrastructure creates jobs today, secures our children's future, and allows for economic growth as a City and Region. This is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. This is our issue. We need to exercise our collective voice and cast our votes on November 6.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Colello, P.E.
President, ASCE, Philadelphia Section

PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE!

As none of us can escape, the reality is that election season is in high gear. Even though you've likely already grown tired of election ads, telephone solicitations, analysis of debates, etc. etc., we need to keep in mind that your right to vote is very important and your exercising of that right is critical.

Our ASCE, Phila. Section and ASCE National are by their legal definition prohibited from endorsing or supporting candidates for election. We are not going to tell you how to vote, but we will urge you to vote! We need to be involved in the process as individuals.

The first step is voter registration, and hopefully you are registered. If you are not by the time you read this, you will likely not be able to vote given the deadlines for registration, which usually occur several weeks before the election.

The next step is voting — the most important part of the election process. Voting is the way that you as a constituent can tell your elected official if he/she is doing a satisfactory job.

There are related activities in which you, as an individual, can participate. These include writing your local newspaper, volunteering on campaigns, and educating yourself and others on a candidate's position on issues that are important to you, to name a few.

We are hopeful that when the "hoopla" is over and we know who our leaders will be for the next terms, we can begin to work with them to impress the importance of what we as Engineers do and how our representatives can help us do more and better.

ASCE NATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

ASCE ISSUES NEW "FAILURE TO ACT" REPORT ON AIRPORTS, MARINE PORTS, & INLAND WATERWAYS

ASCE released its latest "Failure to Act" report on the economic impact of underinvestment in America's infrastructure. In the report ASCE has projected a significant gap between planned investment and spending needs for the nation's airports, marine ports, and inland waterways. With ports and inland waterways critical to our nation's global competitiveness, ASCE's report forecasts investment falling \$16 billion short of the \$30 billion needed through 2020. For airports, ASCE projects a gap of \$19 billion from a total need of \$114 billion. Failing to meet the gaps creates a drag on the economy by causing congestion and delays for U.S. businesses that import and export goods, leading to higher transportation costs and causing the price of goods to rise.

The fourth report in the Failure to Act series was released during two events in Washington, D.C., one for media members and another for Congressional staff. Both events were moderated by ASCE President **Andy Herrmann**, and joined by Virginia Port Authority Executive Director **Jerry Bridges**, and **Rick Calhoun**, President of Cargo Carriers. The event on Capitol Hill was highlighted by remarks from Congresswoman **Janice Hahn**, co-chair and founder of the Ports Caucus.

Previous Failure to Act reports have analyzed electricity, surface transportation, and drinking water and wastewater. Access the complete series at www.asce.org/failuretoact.

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR
DECEMBER 2012 ISSUE
NOVEMBER 16, 2012**

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Amanda Kessler, Forum Editor
Kazi Hassan, Forum President 2012-13
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 3001 Market Street, 2nd Floor
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 khassan@pennoni.com

BOWLING EVENT

On September 25, the YMF hosted its Annual Back to School Bowling Event. This year's event was held at Pep Bowl on Broad and Federal Streets in South Philadelphia. The goal of this event is to welcome the college students back for another school year while introducing them to the YMF members. A total of 28 people attended the event, 24 YMF members and 4 students. Everyone had a great time and the YMF looks forward to hosting it again next year.

[Your Editor, a bowler of sorts (meaning he owns a couple of bowling balls and bowling shoes), heard through the proverbial "grapevine" that, once again, there will be no YMF entrant for the pro bowling tour this year as a result of this event. At least we're consistent...]

CANSTRUCTION

The YMF is looking for volunteers to assist with the **2013 Canstruction Project**. Several teams in Philadelphia will participate in a competition entailing the design and construction of a structure which will be made completely out of cans of food. After the competition, the cans are donated to a local food bank. Last year was a huge success for **Team YMF Philly** as we won the "Best Meal" Award and this year should shape up to be even better!

The YMF is looking for young Engineers who are willing to help develop ideas for the Canstruction design, solicit donations, help move cans, and assist on the build night which will be in the beginning of May. Please contact **Steve Maakestad** at stephen.maakestad@hatchmott.com if you are interested in joining our Canstruction team.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION

As the ad goes, they could've gone anywhere, but they went to Temple. The "they" in this case was two representatives of the YMF – President **Kazi Hassan** and College Contact **Kevin Brown** – who traveled to Temple University on October 16 to speak with the Temple ASCE Student Chapter about what the YMF is, what we do, and how we can help students. Kevin presented a power point presentation prepared by College Contact and YMF Board Member **Colette Montague** which highlighted networking, continuing education and scholarships. Kazi and Kevin stayed after the presentation to answer questions and provide advice.

For more information on the YMF and our college outreach efforts, please contact **Colette Montague** at CMontague@urbanengineers.com or **Kevin Brown** at kbrown@urbanengineers.com.

SECTION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section's Scholarship Program is open for applications for the 2012-13 season. 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 2013 dinner meeting.

ENGINEERS WEEK SCHOLARSHIP

As part of the Delaware Valley Engineers Week celebration, the Section will continue to offer one \$2,000 undergraduate scholarship. Completed applications must be submitted by November 19, 2012. Please visit the Engineers Week website, www.dvewc.org, for applications and specific requirements.

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.

YMF UPCOMING HAPPY HOUR

Coming up in December, the YMF will be hosting a joint happy hour with the Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE) younger members group. Join us in King of Prussia at a location to be determined. Stay tuned for more info!

YMF SPONSORS OCTOBER SECTION MEETING

The YMF developed the program for the October ASCE, Phila. Section meeting to kick off our 100th Anniversary season. Please see the separate article on the meeting for more details.

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/YMFPhilly>

TWITTER: http://twitter.com/Philly_YMF

QR CODE:



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) When there are publicly-noted failures in Civil Engineering designs (i.e. New Orleans levees, Minnesota bridge collapse, etc.), how do you think the Civil Engineering profession should respond?
- 2) Why do you want to become a Civil Engineer? As part of your education what course has been your favorite? Why? How does it relate to your desire to be a Civil Engineer?

Submittal Deadline:

Applications (including recommendations) must be submitted by January 28, 2013.

Scholarship winners will be notified by **February 25, 2013**.

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., Ste. 16
 Philadelphia, PA 19102
jbade@hardesty-hanover.com, (609) 538-8233

SECTION MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

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

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).

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

We encourage all eligible students to apply. Good luck!

**ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS ARE
 AMONG THE MOST FORTUNATE
 OF MEN SINCE THEY BUILD THEIR
 OWN MONUMENTS WITH PUBLIC
 CONSENT, PUBLIC APPROVAL
 AND OFTEN PUBLIC MONEY.**

– John Prebble

OCTOBER DINNER MEETING

October 18, 2012

Loews Hotel – Center City, PA

I-95 CPR

by Robert Wright, Editor

The first meeting of our centennial anniversary season was notable in several ways. First off, the weather was very nice, warm for an early fall day and evening, and the clear skies contributed to the great views from the 33rd Floor of the Loews Hotel, high atop Center City. Over 100 attendees gathered to enjoy the views from the bar during the cocktail hour, network, and partake of good food and an informative and entertaining presentation on a project that could be seen from the meeting room, if one looked hard enough.

Our ASCE, Philadelphia Section's **Younger Member Forum (YMF)** took the lead and arranged the presentation on the **I-95 CPR** project. While CPR is not what you probably first thought of when you read it, it is indeed the revitalization of one of our region's major highways, but the letters stand for "**Cottman-Princeton Reconstruction.**" The focus of the work is primarily two-fold — the rebuilding of I-95 in the area of the Cottman Avenue (PA 73) interchange and the reworking of the virtual spaghetti strands of entrance and exit ramps, with the end result that traffic which flows in several directions through an adjacent residential neighborhood (because of the existing ramp pattern) will be redirected onto new ramps that will directly connect with the desired arterial roadways.

After the cocktail hour, attendees were coaxed to leave the open bar and move to the main hall for dinner and the presentation. President **Jeremy Colello** welcomed all and brought Past President **Ruben David** to the podium for his usual good blessing of the meal. As dinner wound down, President Colello returned to "front and center" to make a few short announcements and then welcome YMF President **Kazi Hassan**, who introduced the evening's speaker, **John Eagan**, Vice President of Alfred Benesch & Company and Project Manager for the I-95 CPR program.

The CPR project is one element of a larger effort focused on the reconstruction of I-95 in the Northeast Philadelphia area, from the Vine Street/I-676 interchange to the Cottman Avenue interchange. Mr. Eagan reported that CPR has been in design since 2000 and has two construction phases, each of which is now underway. The first phase has a construction value of \$32 million and concentrates on utility relocations, new ramp alignment construction, and local street improvements including sidewalk bumpouts and traffic calming measures. The second phase, worth \$245 million (and the largest project let to date by PennDOT, the owner), includes the I-95 structural widening needed to provide four through lanes directional on the mainline (removing the current lane drop through the interchange).

The project, as Mr. Eagan explained it, was designed to mitigate the impact of the ramps on the neighborhood which encompasses the interchange, taking advantage of the need to

renew the infrastructure to re-examine the "disconnected" ramp situation provided with the original construction of I-95 in the early 1960's. The diversion of some of the ramps to the intended destinations, and not guiding through traffic through residential streets, would allow the return of these residential streets to local traffic and residents and provide a benefit to motorists who would no longer have to navigate these streets to get to and from the interstate highway.

President Colello thanked Mr. Eagan for his insightful presentation and gave him a token of the Section's appreciation (which, full of water and accompanied by two aspirins, would hopefully help Mr. Eagan's head cold!).

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

Continued from Page 1

The second case study will provide an in-depth overview of the *Centennial District Transportation Center* at the *Philadelphia Zoo*, which is currently under construction. This 700-space parking facility and the enhanced traffic patterns associated with the development were designed to improve the notoriously-congested circulation issues spurring from the adjacent I-76 and its Girard Avenue interchange while providing necessary parking for Zoo patrons.

Both case studies demonstrate a high level of innovation and creativity that are exemplary for fostering successful community revitalization.

Todd Helmer is an experienced Principal with the ability to effectively manage and coordinate all design disciplines for complex mixed-use and parking structure projects. He has a thorough understanding of all aspects of planning, design, and construction for projects with a significant parking component, and has been involved on over 100 parking structure projects. He currently leads all of TimHaahs' Philadelphia operations, including project and financial management and business development efforts. Prior to leading the Philadelphia office, he served as the Lead Structural Engineer, Project Manager, and Director of Operations for the firm. He is a registered Professional Engineer in five states and the District of Columbia.

**POLITICS IS THE ART OF
LOOKING FOR TROUBLE,
FINDING IT, MISDIAGNOSING IT
AND THEN MISAPPLYING
THE WRONG REMEDIES.**

— Groucho Marx

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES TECHNICAL GROUP

JANUARY DINNER MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013

SUBJECT: Green Roofs for SWM

SPEAKERS: David Plechner, GRP, Design Sales Manager, C.M. Jones Inc.

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

COST: \$25.00 per member/nonmember; \$15.00 per full-time student

The presentation will include an overview of the growing practicality of designing and building green roofs as a cost effective method of storm water management for commercial sites. Examples of green roof projects in both the private and public sectors will be highlighted during this informative and very interactive discussion. Topics of discussion will include cost, benefits, materials, specifications, green roofs and water management as well as types of roofing systems.

Mr. Plechner has a degree in Landscape Architecture and has been working in the commercial construction industry for the last 22 years. He has studied and become a proponent of green roofs over seven years ago. He also has the distinction of being one of the first accredited green roof professionals (GRP designation) in North America.

DIRECTIONS to the restaurant can be found at <http://www.michaelsdeli.com/directions.asp>

RSVP: 1:00 PM, Friday, January 4, 2013

Post reservations to the website: 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** if you have any questions.

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

EWRI SEPTEMBER MEETING

The Environmental and Water Resources Technical Group kicked off its season with a dinner meeting on September 25 at Michael's Restaurant and Delicatessen in King of Prussia. The featured speaker was **Anthony Elberti** of Gannett Fleming who presented on the topic "*Membrane Bioreactors for Wastewater Treatment.*"

ANACE*

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, TRAFFIC SIGNALS...

And now you can't get the "Happy Birthday" song out of your head... (You're welcome!) Anyhow, like our ASCE, Phila. Section, another item that many of us are very familiar with is turning 100 this year – the traffic signal.

Pedestrians, horses, trolleys — and a growing fleet of automobiles — clogged early 20th Century streets in America. Travel was slow, navigation dangerous, and traffic cops stood amid the chaos at their own peril.

Enter Lester Farnsworth Wire, the dean of Salt Lake City's inaugural traffic squad and arguably the inventor of the world's first electric traffic light in 1912 - a birdhouse-like box with red and green bulbs on each side to signal stop and go to travelers. Wire is one of several men who lay claim to the title "Stoplight Inventor," but Utah celebrated the 100th anniversary of his creation on October 4 with a new display that includes a replica of the original signal.

So how progressive was Wire in 1912? There were plenty of skeptics, but it became a success, and signals are everywhere 100 years later, regulating and assisting traffic movement. Wire built a wooden box resembling a birdhouse and installed two bulbs on each side — one bulb dipped in green paint, the other dipped in red paint. The box sat in the middle of the intersection and, once connected to a nearby power source (overhead trolley wires), enabled police officers from the side to flip a switch and direct traffic. The creation came to be known as "Wire's Bird Cage" and "Wire's Pigeon House."

However, as early as 1868, a device with an arm that extended horizontally signaled stop and, when at a 45-degree angle, caution. And in 1914, a system in Cleveland, Ohio included four pairs of red and green lights, each mounted on a corner post and manually operated by a switch inside a control booth. That system was patented in 1918 by James Hoge. Thus, there is some controversy about whether Wire's invention was indeed the first traffic signal. In any event, Wire's "bird cage" is 100 years old this year.

Thanks to the *Associated Press* for this.

THE SUBWAY MAP THAT RATTLED NEW YORKERS

And, forty years ago this past August, no sooner had the Metropolitan Transportation Authority introduced a new map of the New York subway system that complaints flooded in. Many stations seemed to be in the wrong places. The water surrounding the city was colored beige, not blue. As for Central Park, it appeared to be almost square, rather than an elongated rectangle, three times bigger than the map suggested, and was depicted in a dreary shade of gray.

The map was, indeed, riddled with anomalies, but that was the point. Its designer, Massimo Vignelli, had sacrificed geographical accuracy

for clarity by reinterpreting New York's tangled labyrinth of subway lines as a neat diagram. Each station was shown as a dot and linked to its neighbors by color-coded routes running at 45- or 90-degree angles. Vignelli had used his design skills to tidy up reality.

Design buffs have always loved his map for its rigor and ingenuity. When the future graphic designer Michael Bierut made his first trip to New York in 1976, he took one home to Ohio as a souvenir. But many New Yorkers were outraged by what they saw as the misrepresentation of their city, while tourists struggled to relate Vignelli's design to what they found above ground. In 1979, the MTA bowed to public pressure by replacing his diagrammatic map with a geographical one.

The MTA had introduced one of four maps designed by Vignelli in 1972 with the intention that, collectively, they would give passengers all the information they needed to navigate the subway. The diagrammatic System Map demonstrated how to get from A to B, but it was to be accompanied in each station by two Geographical Maps, one of the entire network and another of the local neighborhood, and a Verbal Map that explained in words how to go from place to place. Vignelli had never envisioned that the System Map would be used by itself.

Vignelli had modeled his System Map on the hugely popular 1933 diagrammatic map of the London Underground designed by Harry Beck, a freelance draftsman who compiled it in his spare time. Beck's "diagram," as he called it, applied similar organizational principles, arguably with even greater rigor. Unlike him, Vignelli had included some geographical references, by identifying Central Park and areas like Manhattan and the Bronx. He has since regretted doing so, arguing that the map should have been wholly abstract, devoid of such distractions. But Beck's design was gentler in style, particularly in its choice of typography, while Vignelli used a modern font, Helvetica.

The response to each map also reflected the architectural character of its city. London is such a huge, sprawling historical muddle that its citizens are generally relieved to see it simplified in Beck's "diagram" and cheerfully forgive him for misrepresenting the wonky River Thames as being straight and Angel station as being level with Old Street, when it is further north. Whereas New Yorkers pride themselves on knowing their way around the orderly geometric grid of their streets, which explains why many of them felt they had nothing to gain from a shrunken Central Park and oddly located stations.

Even so, Vignelli had the last laugh. Last year, the MTA introduced "The Weekender," an interactive version of the subway map on its Web site, and commissioned him to reinterpret his 1972 design for it. He did so on condition that it was described as a "diagram," not a map, and the parks were erased, Central Park included.

Thanks to the *New York Times* for this.

*ANACE – Almost Nothing About or Concerning Engineering

BRUNO TALVACCHIA

Longtime ASCE, Philadelphia Section member and friend **Bruno Talvacchia** passed away on September 25 at the age of 95. Mr. Talvacchia was active in the Section for many years and served as Section President in 1972-73. He had numerous career accomplishments and was particularly proud of the part he played in the design and construction of the Center City Commuter Rail Connection.

Mr. Talvacchia recently returned to our area after a number of years in Arizona following his retirement. He was predeceased by his first wife Bess (nee Merola) and his second wife Constance (nee Lambertz) Hanson and is survived by his five children, one step-daughter, 9 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 3 step-great grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made in Mr. Talvacchia's name to Roman Catholic High School, 301 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia 19107 or Villanova University College of Engineering, 800 E. Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085.

WE'VE GONE DIGITAL (MAINLY), BUT WE STILL NEED YOUR CURRENT INFORMATION!

As you are no doubt aware, the distribution of *THE NEWS* has been digital for the past three years and this appears to be working quite well. While we still have about 40 stalwarts still receiving hard copy (and we have nothing against this — if you want this, we can certainly add you to the list), we have been able to save a considerable amount of the budget previously spent on printing and mailing as we take advantage of e-mail delivery. These savings can be allocated into other areas in our budget, meaning we can better utilize these resources on programs, meetings and other items which generally have more tangible benefits to our members.

E-mailing allows *THE NEWS* to get in your hands quickly and efficiently, as many of you have seen and noted, and in many cases this allows members to get *THE NEWS* nearly a week faster than via conventional mailing.

However, we use a mailing list provided to us based on the current National database. Sometimes, there are "disconnects" with this, and we may not have the most current or up-to-date information. If you are no longer receiving our announcements and alerts, you can sign up on our website and continue to get this information. Or, if you would like our communications at a different e-mail address than the one you have on file, please let us know through info@asce-philly.org or via "snail mail" to our address at the Engineers' Club by **December 15**.

ADVANCE PLANNING FOR ENGINEERS WEEK

The Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee will be celebrating **Engineers Week 2013** from **February 15 through February 23** 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 15, 2013

DoubleTree Hotel, Center City

The Awards and Proclamation Luncheon will include:

- A poster session with presentation of student paper winners from 10:00 am to 12 noon prior to the Luncheon
- The Awards and Scholarships presented at the Banquet in previous years will now be featured at the Luncheon
- 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 19, 2013

Fado Restaurant, Center City

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

CELEBRATION OF ENGINEERING RECEPTION THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013

Widener University, Chester

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

- Award recipients will be honored with posters/exhibits/running PowerPoint 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

More information will be provided on price, location, and other details in the coming months. Please visit 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.

100TH ANNIVERSARY HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

In keeping with our 100th Anniversary celebration, we promised to provide some historical references, snippets, trivia and odd facts during this season for your reading enjoyment and to show what we've done over the past one hundred years that we've been around. Here are some for November:

1925

Plans were finalized for the 56th Annual ASCE Convention to be conducted in Philadelphia in 1926 in conjunction with the Sesquicentennial Exposition, marking the 150th anniversary of American independence. The Convention would be held at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel. Section Past President **Richard L. Humphrey** served as Chair.

1952

A Civil Defense Committee formed by the Section in November 1950 at the suggestion of National, submitted its reports on Center City to Mayor Joseph Clark. Eighty members surveyed 150 blocks. Mayor Clark presented a certificate of award to the Section in January 1953 in appreciation of this volunteer effort.

1957

The Section formed the Women's Auxiliary "to further social contacts among its members." The Auxiliary disbanded in 1989, a sign of changing times both in terms of the rising percentage of women in Section membership and the increasing number of women in the workplace.

1986

THE NEWS was printed for the first time using a new-fangled device called a "laser printer". Prior to this, it was produced via the typesetting process that dated back to the days of the Gutenberg printing press. The change in technology allowed revisions in format and photos became easier to include. (So why aren't there more?)

NEWS FROM ASCE NATIONAL

CELEBRATE ASCE'S 160TH ANNIVERSARY WITH OUR T-SHIRT

While our ASCE, Philadelphia Section turns 100 this season, National celebrates its 160th birthday on November 5 (to save you from doing the math, National was founded 1852). You can commemorate the occasion with your own ASCE 160th Anniversary T-shirt; short (\$12) or long sleeve (\$17), sizes men's small to 3X. These shirts were the hit of ASCE's Annual Conference in Montreal and have been very popular on Facebook, so don't delay — order today! Visit www.asce.org/giftstore and scroll toward the bottom to get your own.

THE SECTION RENEWAL RACE IS ON!

National ASCE has announced a membership renewal drive for 2013 and our ASCE, Phila. Section has decided to make a run at it. The challenge is a fairly easy one — the Section with the highest percentage of membership renewals by December 14 will win \$1000. You probably already received an e-mail on this, but here it is in print for your further reading.

So, you were going to renew anyway, right, so maybe you do it a little earlier than you planned (there are other individual incentives being offered for this by National — please check www.asce.org for more details on this).

As an added incentive along these lines, our Section is having our own contest. The companies and agencies in our Section with the highest percentage of employees renewing for the 2013 year will be featured in an upcoming issue of *THE NEWS*, on our website (www.asce-philly.org), and at an upcoming Section dinner meeting!

If you're up to the challenge, here's all you need to do:

1. Renew your membership by **December 14** by either:
 - a. Visiting www.asce.org/renewal and renewing on-line.
 - b. Calling **800-548-ASCE (2732)**, toll free.
 - c. Return the form you may have received in the mail with your check for payment.
2. While you're renewing, update your employer information. Be sure to provide your company's name.

It's that easy!

It will take our Section approximately one month to announce the winners. This contest will calculate the percentage of current members for each employer who renew their membership for the 2013 year. If you have any questions on this, please contact our Membership Secretary, **Cathy Farrell, P.E.** at **215-442-5316** or cfarrell@mbakercorp.com.

DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

Continued from Page 1

whose role is to guide the multi-acre show from sketch pad to show floor, overseeing a team of designers, floral arrangers, and horticulturists. He will also offer a sneak peek of the 2013 show titled "*BRILLIANT!*" held **March 2-10, 2013**, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The 2013 Flower Show — in its 183rd year — will be a celebration of the contemporary culture, design, gardens and landscapes of Great Britain.

More information and details on price and reservations will be provided in the December edition of *THE NEWS*.

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.

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"CHANGE OF THE GUARD" AT SEI

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section's **Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) Technical Group** has had a change in leadership for this season. Previous SEI Assistant Chair **Dr. Nazhat (Nancy) Aboobaker** has become the new Chair of this group, succeeding **Dr. Mohiuddin "Ali" Khan**, who held this position for several years. We welcome Nancy to the "top spot" and wish her well in this endeavor.

— Edgar R. Fiedler

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS (AND, ARE YOU ONE?) !

Our ASCE, Philadelphia Section Sponsorship Program is underway once again, with a bit of a twist this season to reflect our 100th anniversary year. We thank those who have made the financial commitment for this season so far, and the business cards of those sponsors (13 total thus far) are included in the sponsor section of *THE NEWS* along with their levels of support.

Additionally, sponsor logos are displayed in a special Sponsors section of our website. Through a click on the particular sponsor's logo, we provide direct links to its own website so prospective employees can review all available and up-to-date positions being offered by that firm.

We hope your firm will be able to help us reach our goal of \$50,000 to be raised to help support our 100th Anniversary events and publications. We are offering several different varieties of sponsorship, with several "perks," as follows:

Section Sponsor: \$300 ("standard" Section Sponsorship, the same as what has been offered for the past several years); Company business card ad in *THE NEWS*; Company logo listed on Section website

Frankford Avenue Bridge Sponsor: \$500
Same benefits as Section Sponsor, plus...
Company name listed in 100th Anniversary Events Program

City Plan Sponsor: \$1,000
Same benefits as Frankford Avenue Bridge Sponsor, plus...
Company name listed in press releases for 100th Anniversary events; Company name listed on Boards to be displayed at all events throughout the year during 100th Anniversary events

City Hall Sponsor: \$2,000
Same benefits as City Plans sponsor, plus...
Company name listed in the Landmark Guide Book; 2 Tickets to the 100th Anniversary Gala Event

Waterworks Sponsor: \$5,000
Same benefits as City Hall sponsor, plus...
One table of 10 to the 100th Anniversary Gala Event; One copy of the Published Landmark Guide; Spotlight article on your Company in an edition of *THE NEWS*.

We will also be starting an individual sponsorship level to allow all members to be part of this. More details will be provided in upcoming editions of *THE NEWS*.

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

ASK FIVE ECONOMISTS AND YOU'LL GET FIVE DIFFERENT EXPLANATIONS — SIX IF ONE WENT TO HARVARD.

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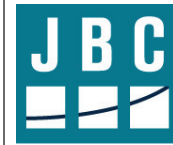
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Our October meeting speaker, John Eagan, presents to the crowd.
 Thanks to Kazi Hassan for the photos.



President Jeremy Colello congratulates John Eagan on a job well done.
 Thanks to Kazi Hassan for the photos.

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