

ASCE, PHILA. SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2014-15 UPDATE

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section Meeting program for the upcoming season is pretty much set at this point, with some minor details being ironed out. Information on the last two Section events of this season are provided below for your planning purposes and marking your calendar.

This information is "fine-tuned" in each edition of *THE NEWS* 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. The "look-ahead" schedule will show details that are available for future meetings at that time for your advance awareness.

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. As always, you are welcome to attend the meeting presentation without dinner at no cost if you prefer to do so.

Aside from those covered elsewhere in this issue, our last Section meeting of the season will be on **April 9**.

Our **Spring Social** will be conducted on **Thursday, May 14**. We have just started working out the details and more information will be provided in coming editions of *THE NEWS*.

ENGINEERS WEEK IS HERE! LET THERE BE DANCING IN THE STREETS...(?)

The national celebration of **Engineers Week** will be conducted during the last week of **February (22nd through 28th)** and several branches and chapters of Engineering societies have planned specific events to cite this. As has been tradition, **Delaware Valley Engineers Week** adds a couple more days to this and will begin its celebration of **E Week** on **February 20**. More information on the Delaware Valley events and activities is provided on page 8 of this edition. We hope you will be able to attend Engineers Week events as your schedule permits to take pride in your profession.

FEBRUARY JOINT LUNCH MEETING

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section
Women's Transportation Seminar, Philadelphia Section

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

Sonesta Hotel, 1800 Market Street, Center City Philadelphia
Networking 11:30 AM, Lunch and Meeting Presentation Follow

COST: \$50 for WTS and ASCE members, \$70 for others (we are not able to offer a government rate or student discount for this meeting – sorry)

SUBJECT: **Transportation and Business Developments Along the Delaware River**

SPEAKERS: **Nicholas Walsh**, Director, Strategic Planning and Development, Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (PRPA) and **Robert Palaima**, President, Delaware River Stevedores, Inc. (DRS)

PLEASE NOTE: RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH **PHILADELPHIA SECTION, WTS. The Philadelphia Section ASCE will NOT be accepting any reservations for this meeting.** Please visit www.wtsinternational.org/philadelphia or <http://www.cvent.com/d/1rqk5z> for information and reservations. You will be asked to make a meal choice as well and the selections will be provided on the website.

The last day for reservations is **Thursday, February 12**. 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.**

After significant coordination and preparation, **Fibria Cellulose**, a major Brazilian pulp and paper company, began shipments to the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's (PRPA) Tioga Marine Terminal in Philadelphia in Fall 2014. This processed wood pulp, sourced from eucalyptus trees, is being transported to Tioga by ship, where it is transloaded to trucks and trains for delivery to regional facilities. It is used to produce products such as paper towels and facial tissues. Messrs. Walsh and Palaima will discuss the background, coordination efforts, and upgrades to the regional rail system and facilities at the Tioga Marine Terminal which took place in advance of the first shipment of paper pulp.

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Resolve to attend ALL Section Meetings!

MARCH JOINT DINNER MEETING

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section
American Society of Civil Engineers, New Jersey Section, South Jersey Branch

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015

(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE FROM THAT PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED)

Maggianno's Restaurant, 1201 Filbert Street, Center City Philadelphia
Cocktails 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting Presentation Follows (approximately 7:30 PM)

SUBJECT: **Comcast Innovation and Technology Center**

SPEAKER: **Thomas Friese, PE**, Pennoni Associates and **Andrew Blasetti**, Thornton Tomasetti

SPECIAL FEATURE: **Swarthmore College and Temple University Night**

The Student Chapters, Faculty and Alumni of the Department of Engineering of Swarthmore College and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering of Temple University will be honored at this meeting. All Faculty, Alumni and Students are cordially invited to attend and participate. More information will be provided in the March edition of *THE NEWS*.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope the New Year is off to a great start for everyone. For the Section, our 2015 program is starting to come into focus, kicking off with an annual trek to the suburbs for a joint meeting with our friends at ASHE and Section Past President **Ann Tomalavage** giving the group an update on our efforts regarding the PA Report Card.

As usual, February will be a busy month for the Engineers of the Delaware Valley. The Section's February meeting will be a lunchtime event with WTS-Philadelphia. That event will be held on **Wednesday, February 18th** and details for the event can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. From there, we roll right into **Delaware Valley Engineers Week**. The festivities kick off with the Awards Luncheon on **Friday, February 20th**, continue with the **Young Engineers Social** on **Wednesday, February 24th**, and culminate with the **Celebration of Engineering Reception** on **Thursday, February 26th**. Details for all these great events can be found at <http://www.dvewc.org/>.

While the final details of our March meeting are still being finalized, we know that the South Jersey Branch of ASCE will be joining us this year (on our side of the river this time) to hear about the new Comcast Innovation and Technology project and preliminary planning has already begun for our April Technical Group multi-topic meeting and our Spring Social in May.

Aside from these great events, at our last Board of Directors meeting all of the Technical Groups and Institutes are also reporting a full calendar of events in the coming months. Please be sure to continually check our website (www.asce-philly.org) and be on the lookout for our email blasts for updates.

So as you can see, there are multiple opportunities to come out and meet some new friends, catch up with colleagues and maybe get a PDH or two. I hope to see you all soon,

Sincerely,
Joseph Platt, P.E.
President, ASCE Philadelphia Section

FEBRUARY LUNCH MEETING

Continued from Page 1

PRPA is responsible for the management and promotion of the region's public marine and inter-modal facilities. Mr. Walsh was employed with the Delaware River Port Authority as a part of its World Trade Division prior to joining PRPA. He serves on the Board of the North Atlantic Ports Association, Traffic Club of Philadelphia and the American Society of Transportation and Logistics.

DRS is committed to the success of the Ports of Camden, Philadelphia, and Wilmington. Mr. Palaima has played a significant role in negotiating labor agreements to dramatically increase port competitiveness. He has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award from the Chapel of Four Chaplains. He serves on the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Maritime Society and chairs the Executive Committee of the Philadelphia Marine Trade Association.

A great bridge is a great monument which should serve to make known the splendor and genius of a nation; one should not occupy oneself with efforts to perfect it architecturally, for taste is always susceptible to change, but to conserve always in its form and decoration the character of solidity which is proper.

— Jean Peronnet

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR SECTION OFFICERS

If you have an interest in being a part of the Section's governance, your opportunity has arrived. In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Section, President **Joe Platt** will be appointing a Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of officers for all Section elective offices for the 2015-16 administrative year. The positions which will be open for nominees are President Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and at least three Director positions.

Please feel free to nominate yourself or a colleague if you are interested in serving the Section in one of these capacities. We are looking for hardworking, dedicated volunteers who have fresh ideas.

The deadline for nominations is **Friday, February 20**. Any inquiries or nominations should be submitted to the Section's Secretary, **Cathy Farrell**, whose contact information is given to the right.

Another places upon his nose a pair of paper or wooden spectacles; he performs the duty of Engineer, comes, goes, makes a plan, looks at the workmen, draws lines, plays the pedant, cries that everything is being ruined, causes the work to be abandoned and resumed at his will, and directs it at great length and as absurdly as possible. This character is termed the geometer, and he does his best to make himself unendurable to those who wield the spade and pickaxe.

— George Sand

ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION — 2014-15 SEASON

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PRESIDENT ELECT

AnnMarie L. Vigilante, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

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Spencer Finch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Sciences ('14-'16)

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Ara Mouradian, Gannett Fleming ('13-'15)

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Jennifer K. Walsh, McMahon Associates Inc.

Jeremy D. Colello, HNTB Corporation

Ann M. Tomalavage, Malarkey Consulting, Inc.

PRESIDENT, READING BRANCH

E. J. Walsh, McCarthy Engineering

**Our Constitution recognizes only the immediate Past President as a part of our Board but, following tradition, we list the immediate three Past Presidents to acknowledge their service.*

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR
MARCH 2015 ISSUE
FEBRUARY 18, 2015**

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Kristin Leese, P.E., Forum Editor

Drew Sirianni, P.E., Forum President 2014–15
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(215) 222-3000
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MOCK INTERVIEW PROGRAM

If you're a student looking for interview practice as well as getting your resume critiqued then look no further... YMF will be hosting mock interviews during the upcoming spring semester. Resumes have been collected from students for review and critique with a follow-up appointment to be interviewed by a small panel of young engineering professionals.

YOUNG GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE LUNCHEON

December 18, 2014 • Municipal Services Building Center City

In an effort to reach out and connect with Civil Engineers working in the public sector, YMF held an information and recruitment lunch with a specific focus on young government employees on December 18. This event featured six presenters: **Amanda Kessler, Nha Truong** and **Chris Renfro** from YMF and **Ruben David, Bob Wright**, and **Chris Menna** from our Section. These enthusiastic folks spoke to an audience of 40 employees from the City of Philadelphia, SEPTA, and local universities. The presentation discussed the overall organization of ASCE from the national and regional level to sections and branches, and emphasized the benefits of being a member, such as the monthly magazine, technical institutes, career website, government relations, and networking. The six presenters wrapped up the luncheon by sharing their own personal experiences as ASCE members. Despite the range in age and experience, all six presenters agreed that their time spent volunteering with ASCE not only enhanced their professional careers, but their personal lives as well. We hope to see many of these new faces at upcoming events.

JOIN THE 2015 YMF CANSTRUCTION TEAM

YMF will be participating in this year's CANstruction design-build competition and we are looking for volunteers to join our team (college students are encouraged to volunteer). CANstruction is a fun competition where your creativity and engineering fundamentals are used to build a structure completely out of canned goods, all while supporting a great cause. After the competition is complete, all canned goods are donated to a local food bank. Build night will be in April, but we are starting to plan now. If you are interested in helping out in any capacity, please email **Kevin Brown** at kbrown@urbanengineers.com.

NETWORKING SEMINAR: HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF NETWORKING EVENTS

January 13 • Field House, Center City

YMF hosted a technical seminar titled "How to Make the Most Out of Networking Events" at the

Field House Sports Bar. The first hour of this two-hour event offered a Happy Hour with complementary (and delicious) appetizers for all 52 attendees. The second hour offered a presentation by **Scott Butcher**, VP of JDB Engineering, Inc., and Vice President of the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS). Scott presented an informative seminar on expanding one's professional network, the advantages of attending networking events, and tips for putting one's best foot forward at such events. The event was geared towards members of the YMF community, specifically young professionals, and local college students. The presentation was very well received, and several attendees commented how much they enjoyed it. Thank you to Scott for the tips, tricks and anecdotes that he shared with the group!

ERYMC CONFERENCE

January 8-10 • Miami, FL

The 2015 Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC) Conference was held in Miami, FL. The 500+ delegates in attendance represented the states of the eastern seaboard and as far west as Louisiana and Tennessee. The conference provided delegates from ASCE's Regions 1, 2, 4 and 5 a unique networking opportunity for all levels of ASCE membership. The conference afforded attendees the opportunity to meet the ASCE Executive Director, National President and President-Elect, and also broke up the Student Chapter, YMF, and Section leaders into separate sessions to discuss and share specific issues relative to their roles in ASCE. These breakout sessions included topics such as K-12 and collegiate outreach, professional development, networking, and social activities. Attendees from our Section included **Chris Renfro, Kazi Hassan, Jeremy Pampuch, Joe Natale, Jesse Gormley, Kevin Brown, Nha Truong, Brian Einstein**, and YMF President **Drew Sirianni**. The 2016 Conference will be held in our own Region 2, in Pittsburgh.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

YMF and ASHE Delaware Valley's Young Members Committee have teamed up for Pennsylvania's Adopt-A-Highway program! The groups have co-adopted a two-mile segment of Bethlehem Pike (SR 1818) in Ambler. The first clean-up will be scheduled for April, with refreshments afterwards. More details will be released soon; if you're interested in volunteering, please contact **Jesse Gormley** (jgormley@pennoni.com).

KUDOS!

YMF is proud to announce that two of our members received awards at the 2015 ERYMC Conference in Miami. **Chris Renfro** and **Kazi Hassan** were presented with the **Outstanding Young Engineer in the Public Sector** and the **Outstanding Young Engineer in the Private Sector** Awards, respectively. The awards are scored on a broad range of characteristics from education, professional development, engineering achievements, ASCE activity, and other

technical, professional, civic and humanitarian activities. Congratulations to you both and thank you for all of your hard work with the YMF and the community!

LOOKING AHEAD...

The YMF has initiated planning efforts for its annual Critical Issues Seminar to be held in April. Please stay tuned for additional details in the next edition of *THE NEWS*.

SCIENCE FAIRS COMING UP JUDGES NEEDED

Our ASCE, Phila. Section will once again be offering **Special Awards** at the **Delaware Valley Science Fairs**, as we have done for over 20 years. The Fairs will be conducted on **Wednesday, April 1** at the **Greater Philadelphia Expo Center** in Oaks. Four Special Awards for individual student projects that have a Civil Engineering theme will be awarded, with two prizes for Grades 6 through 8 and two for Grades 9 through 12.

Volunteer judges are needed for this effort. The judging will require you to spend most, if not all, of your day (approximately 8 AM to 3 PM) at the Fairs, examining and short listing possible projects in the morning and then interviewing the students who assembled them and finalizing the selections in the afternoon. It is always a very interesting and enlightening experience.

If you are interested in being a Special Awards judge for the Section please contact **Chris Rood** at crood@drjtc.org. You will also need to register for this and this can be done through the Fairs' website www.dvsf.org.

For more information on the Fairs please visit the above website.

We hope you can join us for a rewarding and interesting day.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW

Retaining membership in ASCE allows you to stay connected to the latest industry trends and keeps you linked to the best professional development programs and engaged with a worldwide network of peers. Your continual involvement builds a solid foundation to keep your career on track and moving toward achieving your professional and personal goals.

Dues for the current year were payable by January 1, but, if for whatever reason, you have not renewed, please avoid an interruption in your benefits and renew now. Choose the renewal option most convenient to you: online at asce.org/renewal (the quickest and easiest way), by phone at **800-548-ASCE (-2723)**, or by mail, using the invoice sent to you last fall (if you still have it). Ensure a positive return on your investment in a Civil Engineering career by renewing with ASCE.

JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

January 21, 2015

Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge

ASCE 2014 Infrastructure Report Card for Pennsylvania

by Robert Wright, Editor

As we have been doing for many years (more on this below), our first meeting of 2015 and the fourth of our 2014-15 season led us to the suburban “edge city” in the nebulous area between King of Prussia and Valley Forge. At the Radisson Hotel and Valley Forge Casino, not necessarily in that order, we were the guests of our pals at the **Delaware Valley Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE)** at that Section’s usual meeting spot. The day started with the local weather “guessers” calling for a small snowfall which would arrive just in time to complicate the afternoon rush hour and evening, making an already tricky trip on busy highways even more daunting. As things turned out, the snowfall was a little less intense than predicted, but enough to keep some potential attendees away as schools closed early and other factors came into play. In any event, close to 100 folks from the combined Sections were in the room to hear the update on the ASCE Pennsylvania Report Card.

Delaware Valley Section President **Bob Wright**, with some much appreciated help, managed to get everyone pried away from a lively networking hour and into the room to start the evening, and once they were there, he welcomed all and got started. After Delaware Valley Section Past President **Curt Shugars** gave the blessing of the meal, there was a moment of silence to recognize the late **Pat Dougherty** (see the related article on this elsewhere in this edition), and then all recited the Pledge of Allegiance and dinner followed. As dinner wound down, President Wright brought Section President **Joe Platt** to the podium for several Section announcements, starting with his reminder that this joint meeting has been occurring since 1989. President Wright followed with several updates on ASHE Section activities and then introduced Past Section President **Ann Tomalavage** of Malarkey Consulting, Inc., who would co-present with him on the evening’s topic.

President Wright began with a brief background on ASCE in Pennsylvania and the history of the Report Card, which started as a national initiative and has grown to become a document that several ASCE sections have been providing and updating for states as well. The four ASCE Pennsylvania Sections have joined forces to produce this since 2006, with updates in 2010 and 2014. The 2014 update was released to the public in June and has been well-received. It has been found to be extremely useful in the presentation and characterization of infrastructure conditions, particularly to those who have an interest in these conditions but are not technically knowledgeable.

The intent of the Report Card is to simplify the condition of 16 different areas of infrastructure so it can be more easily understood by non-Engineers. Just like the report cards that students get, a letter grade is assigned to each of these

areas based on a comprehensive review of current facility conditions, planned and proposed improvements and upgrades, available and planned capital funding, and unmet needs. President Wright added that this approach has been very successful, particularly with elected officials, as it offers a concise summary of conditions and outlooks. It is not meant to be critical or something that points out inadequacies for purposes of blame, and just like in school, no one wants to bring home a bad report card (and he related his Catholic school experiences with strict teachers). ASCE does believe, however, that the grades have worked to help move legislation, such as Act 89 in late 2013 that has provided unprecedented levels of funding for transportation facilities in Pennsylvania, and it is hoped that this same thought process will work for other infrastructure areas and needs.

Mrs. Tomalavage apologized for some technical difficulties that resulted in the inability of use of the powerpoint presentation prepared for the evening and walked through the process of determination of the grades. She chaired the effort for the 2014 update and ably worked with a dedicated and diligent group of over 50 individuals in the four ASCE Pennsylvania Sections to develop and produce a meaningful and well-presented document. These individuals helped to gather information and draft back-up reports to support the letter grade that each evaluated aspect of infrastructure was given. She cited **Roy Denmark**, **Christopher Menna** and **Ehsan Minaie**, who were part of this group and present at this meeting, along with President Wright’s efforts in assistance with the review and editing of the reports. She also provided short summaries of the grades in several areas and noted that the overall grade for the Commonwealth’s infrastructure is a C–.

One critical element of this effort is the public outreach and information activity. Mrs. Tomalavage explained that state legislators have been pinpointed as key recipients of the Report Card, and several efforts have focused on this group in the past. As previously noted, this has resulted in some success and relationship building with the lawmakers. She added that this message can be taken to local community and business groups, Lions Clubs (to which she has presented and had a couple of anecdotes about), and similar associations. ASCE believes that this heightened knowledge and awareness of infrastructure issues, such as a report shown on *60 Minutes* in November, will help push the issue of needed funding and legislation to address the needs that have been identified. President Wright reminded, however, that members of Congress who were sought after for input in the *60 Minutes* report declined to comment, perhaps sending a message about the political nature of infrastructure funding that has tended to delay improvements and benefits no one.

Mrs. Tomalavage and President Wright combined to wrap up the presentation and note that there were some concerns about the low grades assigned to Bridges (D+) and Roads (D–), two particular areas of interest to ASHE. The infusion of funding brought by Act 89 will certainly help these grades increase, but there is still a long way to go and many unfunded needs that have to be addressed in these areas. Additionally, the data used for the Report Card was current as of the end of 2013, before any meaningful efforts related to Act 89 were able to be implemented, thus the new funding did not have any effect on these grades. Mrs. Tomalavage reminded all that the Report Card and supporting data can be found at www.pareportcard.org.

Several insightful questions were posed to the presenters from the audience and the speakers provided responsive answers.

President Wright thanked Mrs. Tomalavage for this informative update and gave her a token of Delaware Valley ASHE’s appreciation.

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT UPDATING STORMWATER REGULATIONS

A message from the Philadelphia Water Department (PWD):

Effective for new projects submitting on July 1, 2015, PWD is updating its private development stormwater regulations to meet Federal and State requirements under the Clean Water Act. The changes to the regulations will improve the health of Philadelphia’s rivers, minimize local flooding, and encourage the use of green infrastructure throughout the city.

We understand these changes will impact the developers, property owners, designers and Engineers in Philadelphia. PWD is planning several ways to engage the Development Community about these changes.

For up-to-date information about the changes, please visit our webpage: www.PhillyWatersheds.org/StormwaterRegulations.

Have comments about the changes? Use our comment form and sign up for our listserv to receive regular updates about the implementation of the changes.

PWD is planning several presentations and information sessions about the changes. We will publish the schedule of events on our webpage as details are available.

Lastly, PWD is celebrating—not just regulating—stormwater management on private property. In November, we recognized our first Stormwater Pioneers, Stanley’s True Value Hardware and Ruggiero Plante Land Design, for excellence in stormwater management! Both Newsworks and the Roxborough Review covered the award ceremony, which was attended by more than 50 people. To learn more, visit our webpage: www.PhillyWatersheds.org/StormwaterPioneers.

Thank you for your continued partnership with PWD to improve the quality of our local waterways.

PASQUALE DOUGHERTY

Pasquale Dougherty, known to most of us as Pat, passed away on January 12 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was a Section Member for many years and was very active in our "brother" organization, the American Society of Highway Engineers. At ASHE, he served in several positions including President of the Delaware Valley Section and went on to become National President. He was also recognized by the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers as its Engineer of the Year in 2003 and was elected to serve as the Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year in 2001.

He received his Bachelors degree from Villanova University in 1968 and returned to Villanova for his Masters degree, which he obtained in 1975. He was a registered Professional Engineer and Land Surveyor in Pennsylvania. He was proud to note that he graduated from the now-closed St. Thomas More High School in West Philadelphia, where he grew up.

He started his career at PennDOT and subsequently worked for several firms in our area including Pickering Corts and Summerson, Pennoni Associates, McCormick Taylor Associates, and Urban Engineers. At Urban, he relocated to the Harrisburg area to serve as the manager of its Mechanicsburg office. He most recently served as a Project Manager with Arora & Associates at its Harrisburg office, from which he retired last year.

Pat is survived by his wife Liz, three children, one grandchild, two siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

Contributions in Pat's memory may be made to the Villanova University College of Engineering, 800 E. Lancaster Ave., Villanova, PA 19085.

CALLING ALL WANNA-BE POETS... SUBMISSIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR OUR SECTION'S SAINT PATRICK'S DAY MESSAGE

If you've been reading *THE NEWS* for any length of time, you know that we attempt to cite both Christmas and St. Patrick's Day with specific messages. We have conducted contests for these messages in the past and, thus far, the response has been consistent (i.e. none). If we don't get any submissions, the task then falls into the lap of our Editor, which does not always result in something good. So, once again, we're casting the net for anyone who wants to put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard, or chalk to the pavement...) and opening our annual competition for a St. Pat's message, also known as our "Lightly Amusing Message from Eire" and its acronym, LAME, to be published in the March edition of *THE NEWS*.

This has been a poem and limerick in the past, and we're open for anyone who's feeling creative, festive, maybe a little seasonally-affected (by natural, alcohol, or other means – we aren't judging!) to submit his/her messages. We welcome team efforts as well. If we get enough of them,

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT ASCE NATIONAL

After a long and successful career in both the public and nonprofit sectors, ASCE National Executive Director **Patrick Natale** retired at the end of December.

During Pat's 12 years at ASCE, much has been accomplished, including publication of the Body of Knowledge, establishment of both Transportation and Development Institute and Engineering Mechanics Institutes, creation of the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure and Envision rating tool, recognition of ASCE's headquarters as a LEED Gold certified building, and development of the Dream Big! IMAX movie project. Although he is stepping down, Pat has plans to stay very busy, continuing as a volunteer serving on the United Engineering Foundation Board as well as support of the IMAX movie development. He will also be working part-time at Hatch Mott McDonald in New Jersey as its Vice President of Business Strategy.

Thomas W. Smith III has succeeded Pat as Executive Director. Tom has been a dedicated ASCE member for more than 25 years and the Deputy Executive Director since 2010. Before that, he served as General Counsel starting in 1997. Working closely with ASCE's geographic and technical organizations and affiliates worldwide, Tom has provided leadership, direction and management oversight across a wide spectrum of programs, operations and strategic initiatives.

Tom holds a Master's degree in Structural Engineering and a Bachelors in Civil Engineering from the University of Virginia and a law degree from Washington & Lee University. Before joining ASCE, Tom practiced law with a focus on land use issues.

Tom is also a Certified Association Executive (CAE) and an Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP). He has been active in his community and serves on the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals. He previously chaired bar association committees providing legal services to local homeless shelters as well as coordinating national moot court competitions.

we'll conduct a contest (and determine what prize goes to the winner – usually the prize is the winner gets the job for life), or maybe we'll print them all – we'll see how this goes. We don't have much in the way of criteria – it should be "G" rated, and have some sort of St. Pat's connection, but we're fairly wide open otherwise. The "winner(s)" will be given the opportunity to have this published anonymously if they so choose.

Please feel free to consult past March editions of *THE NEWS* (available on our website if your collection isn't up to date) to see what's passed for this in years gone by.

Submissions are due by **February 20**. Please send these to our Editor at newseditor@asce-philly.org. As always, staff members of *THE NEWS* and their families are certainly welcome to submit but are not eligible for any prize, just to keep this fair.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES TECHNICAL GROUP DINNER MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 19

SUBJECT: Updates and Revisions to the Pennsylvania Stormwater BMP Manual

SPEAKER: Mark Bowen, PE, CFM, Kleinschmidt Associates

TIME: 5:30 PM Registration/Networking; 6:00 PM Dinner, Presentation follows

LOCATION: Michael's Restaurant and Deli, 130 Town Center Road, Valley Forge Center, King of Prussia

COST: \$30 (students \$20)

RSVP by Monday, March 16

The Pennsylvania DEP is in the final stages of revising the "Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practice Manual", which is due out this spring. Mr. Bowen is the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Stormwater Technical Workgroup, a combination of regulators, scientists, and Engineers dedicated to bringing good science and practical experience to stormwater design. Post Reservations and payment by PayPal to the website: www.asce-philly.org. Payment by check can be sent in advance to: Philadelphia Section ASCE, 215 South 16th St., Ste. 16, Philadelphia, PA 19102-3349. Checks should be made payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE". Contact **Eric Lindhult** at (732) 570-8086 if you have any questions or if you will be unable to attend after you have registered.

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

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS (A COUPLE OF NEW ONES IN THE MIX...)

We thank those firms who have made the financial commitment to Section Sponsorship for this season. The business cards of these firms (17 total thus far) are included in the sponsor section of *THE NEWS*. Sponsor logos are also 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.

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

**An Engineer is someone who
is good with figures, but
doesn't have the personality
of an accountant.**

– An Anonymous Accountant

N-ASCE*

HISTORY OF SNOW AND ICE FIGHTING IN THE US

By February in these parts, we have usually had a snow event or two (or three...) and action to treat roads is crucial to help us get around through the event safely. While we have been fortunate that the polar vortex of last winter, with its unprecedented snowfall, has not reoccurred, we have had our share of events thus far this season. Recently the American Public Works Association put together a history of snow/ice fighting in the US. An excerpted version is provided below for your enjoyment.

Today, the primary goal is to remove the snow from the driving surface as soon as it becomes a hazard to the motoring public. But, when major modes of transportation were still limited to horse-drawn vehicles, the "down to the ground" approach wasn't used. Instead, wheeled forms of transport gave way to sledded ones as the snow and ice season would approach. In some cases this meant that an entirely different vehicle was used, and in other cases the vehicle had an interchangeable undercarriage or attachment that facilitated the transition from wheels to runners. When this occurred, traveling surfaces needed to be covered by snow and ice, and the material groomed to make travel easier.

To this end, areas would appoint snow wardens who would travel the routes with a large horse-drawn rolling wheel that could have weight added or taken from the interior drum to groom the travel path. The snow warden would accumulate and place snow on areas where the snow wore, melted, or drifted away on routes or bridges, and then assure that it was rolled and ready for travel. Snow was allowed to build up over the course of the season. In parts of upstate New York and the northern regions of Minnesota, the snow was known to build up so high that the structures were intentionally constructed with doors on the second floor that did not lead out onto balconies or decks, but rather were there to allow access out of the buildings when the snow reached that height.

In the commercial hubs of the US, snow would bring things to a standstill. In the second half of the 19th century, major "snowbelt" cities first began snowplowing and snow removal. There are records of streets being cleared of snow by hand. Seasonal workers, unemployed people, and even inmates of correctional institutions were, in many cases, the snow-moving force. The first recorded "automated" snowplow for use on streets was horse-drawn and put into service in Milwaukee in 1862. It would not be until 1913 that a motorized snowplow was first used in Chicago. In many cities, Philadelphia being one, the franchises that allowed streetcars to operate on city streets required the operating companies to both pave and remove snow from streets, with the latter often accomplished by special cars that swept or plowed the roads to allow the trolleys to run.

Many ideas and patents sprang up for the process of snowplowing. Many of these came

from what was done on the railroads. Snow blowers were one idea that worked on railroad lines and had some success in rural areas but not so in dense urban centers, where the snow could not easily be pushed to the side. Consequently, many cities began to develop snow removal systems which carted the snow away into rivers and vacant lots where it could eventually melt. This improved the situation in the cities, but there was still the difficulty of ice and snow which became compacted and caused slick frictionless surfaces. Sand was found to have some effectiveness on ice and snow packed streets by providing traction. Later ash (in an attempt to save some costs and use a by-product of other industries) was added to the sand mix being used.

Getting around by motorized vehicles became a bit easier with Harry Weed's 1904 invention of the "Weed Chain Tire Grip." Although initially used on unpaved and heavily rutted roads in America, it soon became apparent that they also worked on icy and snow packed roads. As snow removal was not complete, minimal damage occurred to the roads by the tire chains because they wore the ice and snow pack, more than the driving surface at the time. In the 1920's, there was an idea from the Overaasen brothers to equip all motorized vehicles with snowplows. Although this was somewhat successful in the brothers' homeland (Norway), it did not catch on in the US.

Salt began being used on roadways in the 1940's but mainly as an additive to prevent the sand stockpiles from freezing. It was during the 1941-42 winter season that New Hampshire became the first state to adopt a policy of spreading salt on road surfaces.

Following World War II, with the advent of superhighways, the "bare pavement" concept of having ice and snow-free driving surfaces very shortly after events became the norm for many areas in the US. In the early 1960's another innovation in the form of studded tires was introduced to the motoring public. Although they worked fairly well on the ice and snow pack, the changing out of tires with the seasons many times did not (and does not always in some western states of the US that still authorize their use) occur. The damage done to the road's driving surface, when it lacked the protection of the ice and snow pack, was extensive.

The drastic increase in the amount of salt used also attributed to the reduction and replacing of the application of abrasives, such as sand, to the road surfaces. The reduction of the sand application also reduced traffic incidents. It was found that once the sand had been applied, and the snow and ice pack melted away, the remaining sand and abrasives on the road surface affected the stopping distances of motorized vehicles. It was in some cases compared to trying to bring a wheel to a grinding halt while the wheel was on top of a series of a million little marbles.

A more recent advancement has been the generation and application of saline solutions to work with, or even replace, solid form salt. In addition to "brewing" their own blends, various public works departments and divisions of transportation

have tapped usable industry residue products for this purpose as well. Brine from dairy operations making cheese, water change-out at larger aquariums (where available), and even brine from pickling operations are only a few of the possible sources. In some ways this harkens back to the earlier noted use of cinder with the sands in days gone by, in that a by-product of another industry is recycled and used in a secondary way. Another up and coming technology is the introduction of organics. Some organics (generally carbohydrates) can be very beneficial when combined with deicing solutions.

The full article, authored by **R. Mark DeVries** and **Ernest Varga**, appeared in the November 2014 edition of the *APWA Reporter*. Thanks to APWA for permission to reprint it.

* N - ASCE - not always something concerning engineering...

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

CADDEN NOW IN CHARGE AT G-I

Allen Cadden was inducted as the President of the ASCE National Geo-Institute (G-I) on October 17. Allen is Director of Strategic Development at Schnabel Engineering at its West Chester office. In this capacity, he oversees strategic direction and training and development for the firm.

He is an active member of the Association for Foundation Drilling (ADSC), and Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) in addition to ASCE. He has served as Chairman of the International Society for Micropiles, a member of the Board of Directors for the International Conference Organization for Grouting (ICOG), and recently completed two terms on the Board of Directors for ADSC. He also serves on the ADSC/DFI Micropile Committee, as well as the ASCE G-I Grouting Committee.

At our Section's level, Allen is a Past President of the Younger Members Forum, where he was very active, and served on several committees.

We wish Allen well in his new position at G-I!

VUCHIC RECOGNIZED FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Vukan Vuchic, Emeritus UPS Foundation Professor of Transportation Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania, was selected as one of two recipients of the Lifetime of Academic Distinction Award, presented by the American Public Transportation Association. This award, given for the first time by APTA, cites an individual who has greatly influenced the transportation industry. (The other recipient was **Dr. George Smerk**, formerly of Indiana University.) We offer our congratulations to Dr. Vuchic and note that this can be added to the

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Information on the ASCE, Philadelphia Section's Technical Groups is given below. 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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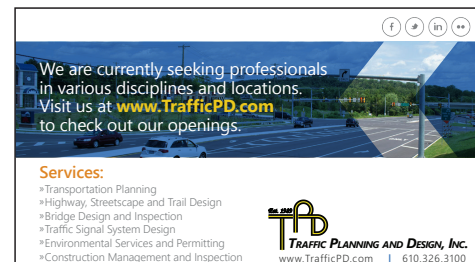
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ENGINEERS WEEK EVENTS — LAST CHANCE

The Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee will be celebrating **Engineers Week 2015** from **February 20 through February 28** 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 LUNCHEON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015

DoubleTree Hotel, Center City

This event is both the kickoff event of Engineers Week and the main event of the Delaware Valley celebrations.

A poster session, with presentation of student paper winners, will be conducted starting at 11:00 AM.

All Delaware Valley Awards and Scholarships will be presented.

Project and individual awards of all participating Engineering societies in the Delaware Valley will be recognized.

The 2015 Engineer of the Year, **Dr. Adam Fontecchio** of Drexel University, and Young Engineer of the Year, **Dr. Brian Crookston** of Schnabel Engineering, will make brief remarks.

YOUNG ENGINEER SOCIAL EVENT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Manayunk Brewery, Philadelphia/Manayunk

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 26, 2015

Singh Center for Nanotechnology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia/University City

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

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.

Please visit www.dvewc.org for more information and reservations. Reservations for all events are due by **February 13**. Costs are \$65 for the Luncheon, \$30 for the Social and \$80 for the Reception and these prices increase after February 13. Additionally, menu choices are available and must be selected for the Luncheon.

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.

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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Continued from Page 6

numerous other awards and citations he has received throughout his long and distinguished career as an educator and transportation consultant.

HASSAN, GORMLEY PRESENT ON STUDENT OUTREACH AT ASCE WORKSHOP

On January 10, **Kazi Hassan** and **Jesse Gormley** led two breakout sessions at the 2015 ASCE Workshop for Section and Branch Leaders for Regions 1, 2, 4 and 5 in Miami, FL, on the topic of “*Taking STEM to Schools*.” Each session involved a 15-minute presentation on what STEM is, its importance, and the various pre-college outreach activities and resources available through ASCE, including the ASCE Civil Engineering Club (CE Club) initiative. For the remainder of each session they took questions and facilitated discussion between attendees related to pre-college outreach and CE Club. They wrapped up the sessions by providing lessons learned, based on our Section’s various outreach efforts (including the CE Club at the Chester Arthur School in Philadelphia, an effort spearheaded by both presenters), and again encouraged participants to use all of the resources ASCE offers. Both sessions were well attended with approximately 15 people at each.

After the presentation, **Jeanine Finton**, Senior Manager of Pre-College Outreach for ASCE, noted, “Kazi and Jesse’s presentation gave participants a solid grounding in all areas of K-12 outreach, from one time presentations to year-long Civil Engineering Clubs. Their practical advice benefited outreach novices and experienced presenters alike.”



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