



the news

PHILADELPHIA SECTION

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

VOL. 47 - No. 6

Our 62nd Year

MARCH, 1975

MARCH MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

Sponsored by the

Geotechnical Engineering Group

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1975

Engineers' Club, 1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia

Cocktails — 5:30

Dinner — 6:30

Meeting — 7:30

SUBJECT:

**POWER PLANT SITE SELECTION —
A GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER'S VIEWPOINT**

SPEAKER:

DR. NICHOLAS CHRYSsafopoulos, P.E.,
Partner, Dames & Moore, Cranford, New Jersey

PROGRAM HOST:

ALFRED McClymont, Chairman, Geotechnical Engineering Group

SPECIAL FEATURE:

AWARDING OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES



The talk will cover the criteria on which fossil-fueled power plant site selection is based. It will also cover additional constraints placed by AEC on the selection of sites for nuclear power plants, and land-use projects.

During his 30-year professional career **Dr. Chryssafopoulos**, has had extensive experience in the design and construction of buildings, highways, airports, industrial facilities, commercial complexes, and earth dams. He has directed numerous foundation investigations to establish design criteria for facilities of various types. Since join-

ing Dames & Moore he has directed foundation investigations for refineries, ship-building facilities, and several industrial plants. Dr. Chryssafopoulos received his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Robert College in Istanbul. He attended the University of Illinois on a Fulbright Scholarship and received his Master of Science degree specializing in soil mechanics. Later he received a Ph.D. in engineering from the same university. Dr. Chryssafopoulos is the author of many technical papers and reports. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the states of New York, New Jersey, California, Illinois, Missouri and Kansas.

SPECIAL FEATURE:

"Temple University and Widener College Night" —

The ASCE Student Chapters, faculty and alumni of the Civil Engineering Departments of Temple University and Widener College will be honored. All students, faculty and alumni are cordially invited to attend.

HEISER NOMINATED BY PSPE

In conjunction with National Engineers Week, the Bucks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers has named Phila. Section Vice President **Will M. Heiser** as its nominee for the Engineer of the Year award, which is given annually by the state unit.

Heiser received a scroll in recognition of his nomination at the Bucks chapter meeting on February 19, 1975 at the Old Anchor Inn in Wrightstown.

Heiser began his career as a draftsman in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Cincinnati, Ohio, working on flood protection along the Ohio River.

Between 1953 and 1959 he helped design hydroelectric plants in India, Iran and West Pakistan.

In 1964, he became a partner in the Justin & Courtney Inc., engineering firm of Philadelphia.

He is a former chairman of the New Britain Township planning commission.

Heiser is secretary of the American Consulting Engineers Council, Pennsylvania.

He is a trustee of the Chalfont Methodist Church. He and his wife, Audrey, have three children. Mrs. Heiser is President of the Phila. Section Women's Auxiliary.

The scroll presentation is one of a number of events sponsored by the Bucks chapter in recognition of National Engineers Week.

The Section extends to Will its heartiest congratulations for this honor.

NOTICE: If THE NEWS arrives late — or you forget to mail your dinner card — please call The Engineers' Club, PE 5-5234 and leave word for Mr. DeKovacs,

Free Beer and Refreshments at the Meeting

FEBRUARY MEETING

Engineers' Club -- February 11, 1975
Chicago's Prairie Plan

Editor's Note: Our thanks to John E. Spitko, prominent affiliate of the Section's Associate Member Forum, for authorship of the main body of this article. Mr. Spitko, Special Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner for Engineering, Phila. Water Department, is the 1974 Award winner of the National ASCE Daniel W. Mead Prize for Associate Members. (See the October, 1974 issue of THE NEWS). We also welcome John as a Staff Writer of THE NEWS.

About 125 members and guests attended the Phila. Section's regular meeting, and enjoyed an enlightening, educational and -- at the same time -- amusing talk on a topic just about as far out from humor as one could imagine -- sludge. The subject was: "The Prairie Plan -- Land Reclamation with Chicago's Sludge." The meeting was sponsored and arranged by the Section's Hydraulics and Sanitary Group. Chairman Alan Hess was our capable Program Host.

Princeton and Swarthmore Honored

The meeting spotlight was focused on the ASCE Student Chapters and Civil Engineering Departments of Swarthmore College and Princeton University, continuing the Section's policy of recognizing, alternatingly at its monthly meetings, the schools of Civil Engineering of Metropolitan Philadelphia Colleges and Universities.

Section Vice President Robert M. Koerner introduced the Faculty Advisors of the Student Chapters: Dr. Alan L. Kornhauser of Princeton; and Prof. M. Joseph Willis of Swarthmore.

Dr. Kornhauser called on the Student Chapter members and Princeton faculty members to rise. He then proceeded -- in his well-known personable and witty style -- to recite the scholastic, social and athletic accomplishments of the Chapter. Outstanding in the latter category, of course, was Princeton's first-place victory in the 1974 Concrete Canoe Race on the Schuylkill (see THE NEWS, October, 1974).

Princeton Now Joins Central Jersey Branch

This was the last participation of Princeton under Philadelphia Section jurisdiction. The University is now within the bounds of the newly formed Central Jersey Branch of the New Jersey Section. The Section wishes Princeton success and God speed! under its new sponsorship. We hope that the Student Chapter and the entire Princeton Civil

Engineering Department will keep abreast of Philadelphia's activities and will accept our standing invitations to attend meetings, join the Technical Groups, and maintain liaison with all of our functions, social and professional.

Swarthmore Shares the Limelight

Professor Willis introduced his Student Chapter officers and members, and C. E. Faculty in attendance. Always the articulate and adroit speaker, Professor Willis' own keen wit is well-known and appreciated. He reviewed the trends in Civil Engineering at Swarthmore. Traditionally maintaining a small C.E. registry, the enrollments have been increasing encouragingly, including several women students, for the first time, as civil engineers. He explained the recently established "double-major program" in which engineering students may obtain a second major degree in a field outside of science and engineering. This admirable and ambitious enterprise involves carrying a heavy semester-hour schedule.

Hess Presents Mr. Dalton

Program Host Alan Hess introduced Frank E. Dalton, our principal speaker of the evening. Mr. Dalton, a dynamic, informed and interesting speaker, gave an account of the Fulton County "Prairie Plan" using slides as well as a liberal offering of anecdotes, tongue-in-cheek remarks, and a thorough knowledge of his subject.

The story of the Chicago Metropolitan District is the story of protecting Lake Michigan. Because of years of effort, Chicago is still able to allow swimming and boating in the Lake just adjacent to Chicago. Mr. Dalton gave us a brief history of pollution control in Chicago. After Chicago began to grow in the 19th century, swamps were drained and settlements became more dense. To handle the increased wastewater loads, combined sewers were built. Over the years Lake Michigan became more and more polluted. As Chicago grew, pollution of the lake still increased to the point where thousands of people died from cholera and other water-borne diseases. The action taken by Chicago was little short of extraordinary. The flows of all Chicago's rivers were reversed (using water diverted from Lake Michigan) to flow away from the lake, thus keeping it free from pollutants. According to Mr. Dalton, this diversion project was a larger undertaking than the Panama Canal Project. Navigation to the Gulf of Mexico was another major reason for this project.

The Metro District once served only the City of Chicago; it now serves this city plus many outlying areas for a total

of 900 sq. miles and 10,000,000 people. Today over 1.5 billion gallons per day of dry weather flow is treated to 90% removal levels. This treatment generates 20,000 wet tons per day of digested sludge (or 1000 dry tons).

As did most big cities here in the East, Chicago had sludge lagoons. The pictures shown by Mr. Dalton attested to their magnitude. At their largest plant, Stickney, until four years ago, sludge was stored in 400 acres of lagoons "for children to take care of the problem." At another plant, sludge drying was begun in order to reduce the volume of sludge. As Mr. Dalton puts it, a law of physics came into play at this point: If you can't put it on the land (lagoons), put it in the air. This huge drying plant discharged over 200 tons of air pollutants per day into the air of Chicago. As new environmental laws and vocal politicians closed in on Chicago's old ways of sludge disposal, it was realized that something had to be done. As stated by Mr. Dalton, with his characteristic candor, "You look for good solutions when your sur-

PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Officers 1974-1975

PRESIDENT	
Alfred O. Quinn	
VICE PRESIDENTS	
Robert M. Koerner	Will M. Heiser
SECRETARY	
Ira N. Pierce	
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	
Louis W. Petulla	
TREASURER	
Theodore Davis	
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	
Walter H. Clark	
DIRECTORS	
Kenneth J. Zitomer	John J. Coscia
John H. Leapson, Jr.	Howard Minckler
Robert Lynch	
Joseph A. Thompson	
(from Associate Member Forum)	
Ronald B. Rulon	
(from Trenton Branch)	
PAST PRESIDENTS	
Robert O. Drange	Bruno J. Talvacchia
Lawrence M. Moy	John E. McCall

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Sidney Robin,	
Chairman and Editor of THE NEWS	
Staff Writers:	
Will M. Heiser	Joseph R. Syrnick
John E. Spitko	
Associate Member Forum News Editor:	
William J. Parante	
Publications Coordinator:	
Albert M. Tantala	
Advertising Manager:	
Joseph M. Cervone	

SEND COPY TO:

Sidney Robin
4745 N. 12th St.
Philadelphia, Penna. 19141

**COPY DEADLINE FOR
APRIL, 1975 ISSUE
MARCH 19, 1975**

vival depends upon it." The engineers of the Metro Sanitation District looked at new heat drying methods, wet air oxidation, Imhoff operations, and many other alternatives.

Meanwhile, in 1966-67, they started growing soybeans and corn at several of the District sewage treatment plants. In a small sewage plant in the western suburbs of Chicago, Hanover Park, a twelve acre farm was built in place of old sludge lagoons. The purpose of this farm was to develop design criteria and to pose as a demonstration that public reaction, even in heavily populated Hanover Park, would not reject land application of sludge. Several other demonstration projects were started in Cook County. Thanks to U. S. Environmental Protection Agency funding, the Agronomy Department of the University of Illinois began a co-operative program of study, with the Metro District, to tackle the task of successfully growing crops on land applied with sludge. In their reports the researchers at the University reported that, if sludge were applied under close control, it would be safe.

After being "thrown out of Kankakee" Illinois while proposing land application there, the District found Fulton County, an area with 2000 new acres of strip-mined land per year. Fulton County was looking for a solution to their thousands of acres of unusable land. Because it had no powers of condemnation outside of Cook County, the Metropolitan District bought strip-mined land, about 12,000 acres on the open market. Only about half of this land is usable, after costly excavation and site-work. Once the land was purchased, a farming demonstration project was immediately set up. A local steering committee was established through which all land use plans filtered. This committee had representation from all governmental agencies and local citizens groups that were involved (more than twelve agencies and groups).

The economics of transportation were studied and a pipeline was shown to be least expensive with barging next in line. Railroads were also considered, and found to be competitive with barging. However, four barges per day would be needed versus one hundred rail cars per day. The logistics of loading these rail cars was considered to be prohibitive. The land disposal program is currently operated as follows: about ten thousand wet tons per day of digested sludge (500 tons if dry) is taken by four barges one hundred eighty miles up-river. The sludge is unloaded and piped the remaining ten and a half miles overland (the pipeline was provided by the barging

company) to four holding basins with total capacity of eight million cubic yards. These holding basins allow the District to spray the sludge in a six to nine month season, necessitated by the cold winter temperatures. Mr. Dalton made it clear that no expense was spared in trying to minimize the environmental effects of the Fulton County Land Reclamation Program.

One of the most interesting parts of the talk occurred when Mr. Dalton discussed the benefits of the project to Fulton County citizens. 500 acres have already been turned over to the County as a nature conservancy and park, which has, so far, had over 100,000 visitors. Mr. Dalton mentioned the indirect benefits to Fulton County to date: \$300,000 per year in taxes, 165 new jobs on the project with 210 jobs indirectly tied to the program. He frankly stated that all the substantial benefits to Fulton County have probably kept the Metro District from being forced out of the area. He stated quite convincingly that they will fight back against that small "lunatic fringe", which remains, using public relations and all available legal means. In the meantime, the District is actively buying more land; it has been calculated that 30,000 usable acres of land, with sludge being applied at a maximum rate of 20 dry tons per acre, would allow the land application of all sludge production plus the unloading of all old sludge lagoons back within Chicago.

A short, but spirited, question and answer period followed. In answer to one question on costs of project alternatives, Mr. Dalton aggressively stated that civil engineers should stop kidding each other; benefit/cost ratios, in the old sense, are no longer valid. We should start our evaluations of projects with the philosophies of conservation and recycling -- at any cost.

All questions directed to Mr. Dalton were answered candidly and unequivocally, no matter how argumentative in implication. Many of his answers and comments provoked plenty of laughs. But the contents were saturated with facts and reason -- on an issue which has spawned controversy, bitterness, conflict and endless debate among community residents, environmentalists, Sanitary Engineers and lawyers.

Mr. Dalton received a warm round of applause for his excellent and provocative talk concerning last year's ASCE Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement.

President Quinn presented Mr. Dalton the Section's Certificate of Appreciation at the conclusion of his talk.

SO NOW YOU KNOW

by Joseph R. Szymick, Staff Writer

From time to time members have asked about the administration of the main Section meeting and some have suggested that perhaps it would be a good idea to hold the meeting in different locations. The Board of Directors has, on several occasions investigated this possibility and has decided that when all factors are considered, the advantages of the Engineers Club outweigh the disadvantages.

In an effort to keep all members appraised on these matters we have attempted to summarize the Section's arrangements with the Engineers Club and some of the positive and negative factors regarding the Club as expressed by various individuals. We point out that much of the following discussion is the opinion of THE NEWS and others and should be viewed in this context.

ASCE pays the Engineers' Club a yearly fee based upon the number of Section members. This charge includes the use of all club facilities including the auditorium for main Section and Technical Group meetings, conference rooms for Board meetings, classroom facilities for smaller gatherings, etc. At the main Section meeting the Club charges ASCE \$5.50 for each dinner served. Since the Philadelphia Section, charges members \$5.50 for dinner, they neither subsidize nor profit from this arrangement. Students, on the other hand are charged only \$2.50 for dinner which means that the Section subsidizes them to the tune of \$3.00 each. In addition, there are a few free dinners paid for by the Section such as for guest speakers, new members to introduce them to the Philadelphia Section, and certain Student Chapter officers on "College Nights." Bar facilities are set up for the convenience of ASCE members with total receipts and profits being handled by the Engineers' Club. Audio-visual equipment is supplied by the Club without charge.

Most of the complaints received about the Engineers' Club concern the conservative (drab?) decor of the meeting room and the quality of the service and food.

We will not comment with regard to the physical plant except to say -- score one for the disadvantages. We cannot however agree with the food/service evaluation. While, in the past there may have been merit to these complaints, both the service and the food (quality and quantity) have been reasonably good this year. In general, the attendance

(continued on page 6)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Engineers in Legislature

According to the latest Legislative Bulletin published by the National Society of Professional Engineers, engineers account for a total of four members of the new congress. Two are in the House and two are in the Senate. Although a majority of House and Senate members are affiliated with the legal profession, the numbers of engineers and scientists becoming involved in the legislative branch of the Federal Government are increasing.

New Members

Last month's issue of THE NEWS listed many new members and transfers to the Philadelphia Section. The Associate Member Forum would like to welcome them and emphasize to them that coming out to the regular monthly Section meetings is an excellent way to acquaint themselves with the Local Section. Also, we invite any interested Associate Member to participate in the functions of the Associate Member Forum.

Transportation Funding

According to President Ford's recent budget proposal, there will be an increase in both highway and mass transit funds. The budget calls for total highway obligations of \$5.4 billion in 1976, a \$600 million increase. Interstate highways will get a bulk of these obligations, or about \$3.06 billion. Public transit outlays for 1976 are budgeted for over \$1 billion, a plateau reached for the first time in public transit funding. Transportation, being a basic necessity, should continue to be adequately funded for many years.

News Items Wanted

Once again we are soliciting news and information items of particular interest to Associate Members. Associate Members are encouraged to contribute. News items can be sent to:

William J. Parente
Gannett, Fleming, Corddry &
Carpenter, Inc.
Box 368, 651 Allendale Road,
King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

VILLANOVA STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

The Villanova Student Chapter plans various activities and functions in the new year, both on a professional and social level, by which the student can complement his experiences in the classroom. We feel that the purpose of an engineering society is to provide a means

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

After a two-month winter interval, the Phila. Section Women's Auxiliary resumes its regular monthly Luncheon-Meetings on **Wednesday, March 19, 1975, 12:00 Noon** at the Engineers' Club. Featured speaker will be **Marilynn Marter**, Food Staff Writer of the Philadelphia Inquirer, and author of the popular column — "\$\$\$ Savers" — in that newspaper. Miss Marter will discuss how to beef up the food budget through careful, cost-saving buying; and she will describe useful and tempting recipes.

All Auxiliary members and their friends are cordially invited to attend this meeting. Remember, it is not too late to join the Women's Auxiliary. For information and membership applications please communicate with Membership Chairman Mary Beth (Mrs. Joseph R.) Szymick, Phone — 487-2273; or see any officer at the March 19th meeting.

by which a student can enhance his engineering education. ASCE is that vehicle of involvement for the students in Civil Engineering.

February Meeting

On Tuesday, February 18, **Carmen F. Guarino**, Water Commissioner for the City of Philadelphia, spoke to the Chapter. He gave a slide presentation on "Water Resources."

March Meetings

Our **Tuesday, March 11th** meeting will be highlighted by guest speaker **Fran Bray**, from the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Bray's presentation will deal with the work presently being done in the Delaware Valley. He will also speak about job opportunities and the outlook for engineers in the future.

On **Tuesday, March 18**, the Sixth Annual Careers Conference will be held at Villanova University. The Careers Conference consists of speakers from the four engineering fields. The purpose of the conference is to give high school and college students a better insight as to what engineering really is.

CANOE RACE

The annual Concrete Canoe Race will be held on Saturday, April 12 at Fairmount Park. Last year Villanova finished third in the final standings. This year we are entering two canoes and we are hoping to improve on last years results. The race should be very exciting, so if you can make it, come out and support us.

Joseph Cavaliere
President, A.S.C.E. Student Chapter

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

by George R. Beetle, Chairman

The Legislative Affairs Committee of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE recently issued a comprehensive list of topics to be addressed in the coming months. These include professional services procurement, registration board reform, cooperation between professional societies, and legislative effectiveness.

Recent scandals such as those in Maryland involving former Vice-President Agnew have tarnished the public image of the engineering profession. Many states have enacted new laws regulating the selection of consultants. It is in the best interests of the Society to oppose competitive bidding for engineering services, to support new legislation to restrict political contributions, and to seek uniformity of consultant selection procedures.

Registration Board reform is a problem which, although related to procurement of services, should be dealt with separately. State registration boards could be significantly strengthened by receiving broader licensing responsibility and more enforcement power. A more obvious problem is the need for increased financial support for the Boards.

Cooperation between professional societies is a necessity in attempting to bring about constructive reform of professional practice statutes. Negotiation among the professional societies of a consensus position would allow the presentation of a united front to the legislature, but has been difficult.

A closely related issue is that of legislative effectiveness. Elected officials see the engineering profession as a disorganized source of substantial contributions that requires no position on public issues and no voting support. They will probably contrive to hold this view unless initiatives by the profession force them to act otherwise.

The Legislative Affairs Committee urges all Section members to consider these important issues and their ramifications.

JUSTIN & COURTNEY, Inc.

Division of O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc.

Water Supply, Reservoirs, Flood Control

Drainage, Irrigation, Dams.

Hydroelectric Power, Pumped Storage
Planning - Reports - Design - Inspection

226 W. Rittenhouse Square

Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

(215) 546-5504

**NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE
1975 - 1976**

In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE, the Nominating Committee has submitted to President Alfred O. Quinn the following official slate of nominees for office for the coming year.

- President — Dr. Robert M. Koerner (one year)
- 2nd Vice-President — Walter H. Clark (two years)
- Assistant Secretary — Joseph M. Cervone (two years)
- Membership Secretary — Gerald M. McDonnell (1 year to fill remaining term of Walter H. Clark)
- Director — George N. Beetle (two years)
- Director — Robert C. Belfi (two years)
- Director — Charles Peters (two years)
- Director — (@ Associate Member Forum) — Ernest Brizell

Officers in which incumbents have one more year to serve are:

- 1st Vice-President — Will M. Heiser
- Secretary — Ira N. Pierce
- Treasurer — Theodore Davis
- Directors — Howard Minckler
Robert Lynch

Past Presidents to serve on Board of Directors:

- James W. McPhillips
- Lawrence M. Moy
- John E. McCall
- Alfred O. Quinn

If no additional nominations have been submitted to the President in accordance with the Section's Constitution and By-Laws and filed with the Secretary by April 1, 1975, the above slate of nominees shall be declared elected at that time, and will be installed at the Annual Spring Social at Bala Golf Club, May 10, 1975.

The Nominating Committee was comprised by: Lawrence M. Moy, Chairman; Joel Justin, Robert M. Koerner, Joseph R. Synchron, Ira N. Pierce and Charles Peters.

**MOTIVATION OF MINORITY
YOUTH TOWARDS ENGINEERING
CAREERS**

(The following is an update on the work of the Section's newly formed Career Guidance Committee by Walter Clark, Chairman. A preliminary report was published in THE NEWS last month).

Plans for motivating minority youth towards careers in engineering are proceeding as follows:

Bill Layton, National ASCE Staff Representative for Minority Programs, came over from New York and joined Larry Moy, Larry Cruger and me in making pilot presentations January 22nd, 23rd and 24th to students at the following junior high schools:

- 1) Strawberry Mansion Junior High — 25 Math Students
- 2) Wanamaker Junior High — 300 Students
- 3) Sayre Junior High — 80 Applied Math Students

The general format was to talk with the Counselors and/or the Principal of the school. Larry Cruger and I then told the classes selected how we got our start in engineering. Bill Layton followed by presenting the film. Finally, we had a question and answer period. The film we presented is named, "A Piece Of The Action". The film is a musical play, showing how three (3) minority students, Black and Spanish speaking, were convinced to pursue careers in engineering. It seems to be a real asset at getting the minority youth interested, because they can identify with the people in the film. I am sure that everyone was impressed by it.

We made another presentation on January 28th at the Strawberry Mansion School to three separate 9th and 10th grade math classes. The counselors at the schools we visited are very enthusiastic about the effect the film has at arousing the youths' interest. I think that we can continue this program of visiting junior high schools, and eventually high schools, throughout the year. Several engineers and engineering tech-

nicians, in City government and SEPTA, have volunteered to help in a continuing program. They are:

- Ray Tate — Licenses and Inspections
- Faulkner Edmonds — Water Dept.
- Dave Harmon — Water Dept.
- Rachel Williams — Streets Dept.
- John Nunn — Streets Dept.
- Don Huddle — Streets Dept.
- Jim Bush — SEPTA

A flyer, printed on Phila. Section, ASCE stationery, explaining the Career Guidance Committee program and soliciting inquiries, is being mailed to Philadelphia area Junior and Senior High School Math-Science Counselors and Principals.

As previously announced, Phila. Section members interested in taking part in this highly worthwhile endeavor, please call Walter Clark, MU 6-3839, or Larry Moy, MU 6-5538.

**CENTRAL JERSEY BRANCH
New Jersey Section - ASCE
(Formerly Trenton Branch)**

March Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 1975

- Cocktails6:00 P.M.
- Dinner7:00 P.M.
- Meeting8:00 P.M.

Location: Princeton Country Club, behind Treadway Inn, off Route 1.

Speaker: William T. Cahill, former New Jersey Governor.

Topic: A Program on Transportation

All Central Branch and New Jersey and Philadelphia Section members, wives, and guests are cordially invited to attend. Please get your reservations in by noon on Friday, March 14, 1975 to David B. Christian, Secretary, Central Jersey Branch, 146 W. Richardson Ave., Langhorne, Pa. 19047. Phone (215) 757-7802. Dinner will be a "Club Buffet" and will cost \$6.50 per person. Cash bar at \$1.00 per drink.

P.S. Second Annual Dinner-Dance and Installation of Officers will be held on May 10, 1975 at the Old York Inn, Hightstown, New Jersey, Please put this date on your calendar of coming events.



HUDSON ENGINEERS, INC.
Professional Engineers & Consultants

Supports the Goals and
Activities of A.S.C.E.

Telephone 215-735-5131
121 S. BROAD STREET
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

SPRAGUE & HENWOOD, INC.

Foundation Investigations - Soil Testing and
Test Borings - Grout Hole Drilling and
Pressure Grouting - Diamond Core Drilling

Philadelphia, Pa.
(215) 735-6774
Bridgeport, N. J.
(609) 467-1800

A. W. MARTIN Associates Inc.

Consulting Engineering Services for:
Pollution Abatement and Control
Environmental Systems:
Wastewater — Solid Waste
Highways - Transportation - Traffic Control
Land Planning - Structures - Surveying
Feasibility - Analysis - Design-
Presentation - Implementation

900 W. VALLEY FORGE RD.
King of Prussia, Pa. 19406
P.O. Box 190 (215) 265-2700

TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES**Hydraulics and Sanitary**Date: **Thursday, March 20, 1975**Engineers' Club—12 Noon Luncheon
Subject: **Computer Control of Combined Sewers**Speaker: **James Anderson**, President,
Watermation Corp.Program Host: **Michael Nelson**, Sec.-
Treas., H. & S.E. Group

Luncheon reservations must be made by March 18, by calling Michael Nelson at MU 6-3865.

Heiser Addresses January Meeting

Will M. Heiser, Vice President, Justin & Courtney, Inc., made an excellent presentation entitled "Dams and the Environment," at the H. & S. Group meeting at the Engineers' Club, January 16, 1975. Mr. Heiser briefly discussed various types of dams and then related his experiences with dam construction overseas. Mr. Heiser also discussed some of the environmental pro's and con's of dam construction. A lively question and answer period followed the presentation.

* * *

Combined Structural and ConstructionDate: **Thursday, March 27, 1975**Engineers' Club—12 Noon Luncheon
Subject: **Structural Design of the United Engineers Building, Philadelphia**Speaker: **Jack I. Mann**, Chief Structural Engineer, General Engineering Division, United Engineers & Constructors, Inc., Boston, Mass.Program Host: **Dr. Frederic Roll**,
Chairman of Structural Group

* * *

Transportation and Urban DevelopmentDate: **Thursday, March 20, 1975**Engineers' Club—12 Noon Luncheon
Speaker and subject to be announced.**BALA SOCIAL TIME IS NEAR**

It's that time of year again. Mark your calendar now!!! The ASCE Annual Spring Dinner Dance will be held **Saturday, May 10, 1975**, at the Bala Country Club featuring the Ukrainian Folk Troupe as entertainment and dancing to the music of Ronnie Drake's Orchestra. A delicious Prime Rib Dinner is planned. The total cost for **everything** is only \$12.50 per person. Why not plan to join us for an enjoyable evening of fun and entertainment? Watch for next month's **THE NEWS** for details on purchasing tickets. See you on **May 10th!**

Joan W. Rutecki

Combined Social Chairman

SO NOW YOU KNOW

(continued from page 3)

for the meetings has been high (average over 125) and the Section has opted for a buffet format to better accommodate the peak demand.

Another common complaint concerns the price of the dinner. ASCE has talked with other organizations in this regard and found that \$5.50 appears to be in line (and, in many cases on the low side) with what other groups are charged for similar settings. The Section would be happy for news of any bargains.

Some of the members who work in the suburbs have indicated difficulty in getting into center city for the meetings. There is no question that this comment has merit, but practically speaking there is little that can be done about it. Moving the meeting to a suburban location would simply redistribute the inconvenience. The only practical mode of transportation in the suburbs is the private automobile. Those members dependent upon public transit would just not attend. Recent experiences with Associate Member Forum meetings suggests that the number of new attendees could not compensate for the loss of attendance cause by the move.

By far, the biggest advantage of having the meetings at the Engineers Club lies in the flexibility in the number of dinners required. Most private restaurants require a firm attendance figure at least one day in advance. However, many engineers are unable to definitely commit themselves until the last minute and there are a variety of things that can go wrong with the postcard reservation system (late mailings, Post Office delays, etc.). As a result, the Meetings Committee usually must resort to a crystal ball approach when guesstimating the attendance. For example in December we estimated that attendance would be 130 and the Club set up accordingly. 170 attended. In February we expected and set up for 130. 82 dinners were served. At most outside places you are held to the number of dinners you estimate which means that we would have had to turn away 40 dinners in December and would have been stuck with 48 extra dinners in February. The Engineers' Club, however, has remained very flexible in this regard and in both cases charged ASCE for the number of dinners actually served. (Maybe we should consider firing the crystal ball operator).

So there you have it. Some of the pros and cons about the monthly meetings. **THE NEWS** feels certain that many members would like to comment further on this subject and ask that you feel free to do so in care of this newsletter. Depending on the response we receive we may run additional articles, publish letters received, or start an opinions' column. Let's hear from you!

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

The Delaware River Basin Commission announces the retirement of **Ralph Porges** as Head of its Water Quality Branch and the promotion of **Seymour P. Gross** to succeed Mr. Porges, effective in February, 1975.

It was under the direction of Mr. Porges that the Commission's water quality staff and its programs were extensively expanded in response to enactment of new Federal and State laws mandating extensive upgrading and expansion of water pollution control programs and facilities in the four Delaware Basin States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware and also in the Federal Government.

Mr. Porges intends to continue to reside in this area and plans to engage in professional consulting activities.

Mr. Gross, who joined the DRBC staff 12 years ago, has been second in command of the water quality branch to Mr. Porges. Recently he also has been in charge of the Branch's surveillance section which is responsible for the pollution abatement program in the Delaware River Estuary. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from City College in New York and a master's degree from New York University.

Mr. Gross and his wife Dolores and their two sons live in Willingboro, N. J., where he is a member of the Township Environmental Commission.

"WOOD"**A Modern Structural Material****A 3 HOUR SEMINAR**

Presented by
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF TIMBER
CONSTRUCTION
AMERICAN PLYWOOD ASSOCIATION
SOUTHERN FOREST PRODUCTS
ASSOCIATION
SOUTHERN PRESSURE TREATERS
ASSOCIATION

at
Villanova University**April 10, 1975**

1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

For Details Contact
R. H. MILLER or E. M. WALLOat
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
Civil Engineering Dept.**Section Members!**

Please Take **THE NEWS** Home. Your Wife Wants to Read
The Women's Auxiliary Items!