

# the news

PHILADELPHIA SECTION  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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Our 66th Year

December, 1978

## DECEMBER LUNCHEON MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1978**

Engineers' Club, 1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia

Lunch — 12:00 Noon

Meeting — 1:00 p.m.

### SUBJECT:

**RESOURCE RECOVERY and ENERGY GENERATION from SOLID WASTE**

### SPEAKER:

**WILLIAM J. LANDMAN**, Commissioner of Sanitation, Hempstead, N. Y.

### PROGRAM HOST:

**DR. EDWARD F. GILARDI**, Chairman Hydraulics and Sanitary Group



Mr. Landman will discuss the full service contract entered into by the Town of Hempstead to provide for the financing, building and operating of a Resource Recovery Facility. He will also describe the interface of private industry and the municipal agency together with an update of construction and trial operations currently underway.

**William J. Landman** is a native of the Town of Hempstead, having attended local schools and Hofstra University. He is a career officer in Town Government with 28 years of service. In 1960, he assumed control of the Department of Sanitation as Superintendent, and later became the Com-

missioner of Sanitation. The Department of Sanitation, with 700 employees, provides for the solid waste needs of the Town's 800,000 residents.

Mr. Landman is a member of the Nassau County Chapter New York State Society of P.E.'s; American Public Works Association; ASME Incinerator Committee; the Solid Waste Institute; Air Pollution Control Association; a co-founder and Director of the Long Island Sanitation Officials' Association, Inc., and Past President of the Association 1975-1976; and Director Region 1, of the New York State Association for Solid Waste Management, and a member of its Executive Committee.

### SPECIAL FEATURE:

#### SWARTHMORE NIGHT

The ASCE Student Chapter, faculty and alumni of the Civil Engineering Department of Swarthmore College will be honored at this meeting. All students faculty and alumni are cordially invited to attend.

## TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

### Geotechnical

Date: Tuesday, December 19, 1978

7:00 P.M. — Engineers' Club

Subject: Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant  
- Project Update

Speakers: **Edward Doheny** and  
**Allen Hulshizer**

United Engineers and Constructors  
Program Host: **Scott A. Fritzinger**  
Chairman, Geotechnical Group

The speakers will provide commentary on a slide presentation. Mr. Doheny will discuss foundation design aspects; and Mr. Hulshizer will present an overall status report on the huge project, including outstanding structural features. Refreshments are served.

### Hydraulics and Sanitary

Sponsor of Dec. 12th Section Meeting.  
**November 1, 1978 Meeting**

**Ron Buchanan**, Chief of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Chemical and Hazardous Wastes presented his State's program for **Chemical Waste Disposal**. Citing a history of numerous waste disposal problems stemming from New Jersey's abundant industrial facilities, Mr. Buchanan pointed to enforcement of the new federal regulations on residual management and DEP's state-wide manifest ordinance as effective means of insuring proper protection of the environment.

Mr. Buchanan showed many installations which graphically portrayed both wanton neglect of dangerous residual wastes and modern waste processing plants where neutralization and recycling can be economically performed. Approximately fifty members of the H & S Group attended this luncheon meeting and many questions followed the presentation.

Mail Reservation Cards Immediately or call Mr. deKovacs at the Engineers' Club — PE 5-5234  
Win a FREE DINNER!

**STUDENTS** — Plan to attend for Lunch (Half Price) or meeting after Lunch

## Holiday Greetings

The Editor and staff of THE NEWS, on behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors, extend to the members of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE and their families, felicitations of the Season, and Best Wishes for a healthy, happy and successful New Year.

### IMPORTANT !!

You have noticed that, starting with the November, 1978 issue, THE NEWS is now being mailed at Non-Profit Organization rate. While this promises postage savings to the Section, it also runs the risk of much longer delivery time from your local post office to your mail box. Therefore, please refer to your 1978-1979 Section Program Schedule and mark your calendar for all meetings and social functions. Listed below is a summary of remaining functions.

#### Tuesday, January 9, 1979

Section Dinner Meeting, Engineers' Club—Drexel University Night

#### Tuesday, February 13, 1979

Section Dinner Meeting, Engineers' Club—University of Pennsylvania Night

#### Tuesday, March 13, 1979

Section Dinner Meeting, Engineers' Club—Widener College Night

#### Wednesday, April 11, 1979

Joint Dinner Meeting with S.A.M.E., at Officers Club, Phila. Navy Yard

#### Saturday, May 5, 1979

Annual Spring Social, Bala Golf Club

THE NEWS also admonishes all Technical Group Chairmen, Committees, and other contributors to get your copy to the editor by the deadlines noted at the bottom of page two of each issue. In general, the deadline date for copy for a given month's issue of THE NEWS is the Section meeting date of the previous month.

Mail all copy to the Editor Sid Robin, 64 Nancy Drive, Richboro, Pa. 18954 — Phone (215) 322-7464.

### PLYWOOD DESIGN SEMINAR

The American Plywood Association, in cooperation with the Phila. Chapters of the Construction Specifications Institute and American Institute of Architects, and the Phila. Section, ASCE, will conduct a seminar entitled "Structural Design in Plywood and Plywood Roof Systems" on Wednesday, January 17, 1979, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the Engineers' Club Conference Room. Special emphasis will be placed on the 1978 BOCA code and May 20, 1978, revisions of the Dept. of Labor & Industry, "Fire and Panic Code", as well as, FHA/HUD construction requirements for commercial/industrial construction.

Full details of the seminar and reservation forms will be enclosed with the January, 1979 issue of THE NEWS.

The consulting engineering firm of Greeley and Hansen announces a move to new quarters at 1818 Market Street Philadelphia.

Many active members of the Phila. Section, ASCE are affiliated with the organization.

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The next monthly Luncheon-Meeting of the Auxiliary will be held at the Engineers' Club on Tuesday, December 19, 1979 — 12:00 noon (note change of day). It will be the Annual Christmas Party and will feature fun and song. H. Taylor Riegel, popular area pianist and master of ceremonies will conduct and accompany a "Christmas Carol Sing - Along."

The Christmas Party is always an enjoyable experience; and Auxiliary members and their guests are urged to attend.

The Auxiliary is pleased to announce the enrollment of several new members recently. You may join at the December Christmas Party; or call Membership Chairman Marie (Mrs. Kenneth J.) Zitomer — LI 8-5324.

THERE WILL BE NO WOMEN'S AUXILIARY MEETINGS IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1979.

### SECTION CONDUCTS FABRICS SEMINAR

#### Mark Your Calendar

The Phila. Section, under the direction of its Continuing Education Committee, Dr. Bernard M. McNamee, Chairman will hold a One Day Seminar, on The Use of Man-Made Fabrics in Soils Engineering and Below Ground Construction, on Friday, February 23, 1979, 9 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., at the Engineers' Club.

In the past, the major uses of fabrics were for reinforcement of poor subgrade soils and for protection of underdrain systems. Many newer uses are currently being attempted.

Registration fee is \$100, which includes Seminar notes, lunch and coffee. Full particulars and application information will be published in the January and February, 1979 issues of THE NEWS.

### PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR  
JANUARY, 1979 ISSUE  
DECEMBER 12, 1978**

## NOVEMBER MEETING

November 14, 1978 Engineers' Club

**Editor's Note:** THE NEWS is indebted to Assistant Secretary William M. Malarkey for the body of the following writeup.

The well-attended November Section meeting was sponsored and arranged by the Associate Member Forum, and was capably Program-Hosted by AMF President **William J. Parente**. Principal speaker was **Paul E. Conrad**, Executive Vice President, Wilber Smith & Associates, whose subject was: "The Consulting Engineer in the International Market."

### Villanova Shines

The focus of the meeting was on the Civil Engineering Department of Villanova University. More than 45 ASCE Student Chapter members and others - including a bevy of gorgeous female C.E. students - turned out to take a bow. (Oh! where were these lovely creatures in my undergraduate days!)

**Dr. Lewis Mathers**, Faculty Monitor of the Student Chapter, introduced officers and members, alumni and faculty dignitaries. Seated at the head table were **Dr. Robert D. Lynch**, Dean of the College of Engineering; and **Dr. Edward M. Wallo**, Chairman of the Civil Engineering Department, both prominent Phila. Section members. Dr. Mathers also announced important coming events and conferences at Villanova.

Beautiful, charming and keen-witted **Charlene O'Connor** (yes, she's Leo's daughter), President of the Villanova ASCE Student Chapter, presented a "thumbnail" sketch of recent Chapter activities. A highlight was the Career Conference for seniors and juniors, at which business executives and civil engineering branch specialists (environmental, structural, energy, etc.) conducted interviews. Charlene summarized diverse engineering works and projects planned or underway; sports and social activities in which the Student Chapter is involved. She expressed pleasure at the enthusiastic support of underclassmen, which encourages prospects for continued growth of the Chapter.

A significant addendum to Charlene's delightful presentation was President Pennoni's pronouncement that seven of the ten top engineering students at Villanova are women!

### Problems in Foreign Countries

Mr. Conrad, Executive Vice President of the firm, gave a very candid description of the many difficulties he has encountered through the years. Sources of foreign consulting work can be broken down into several categories: 1) Devel-

oped countries (e.g. Western Europe), 2) the developing but oil-rich Arab countries of the Middle East, and 3) the very poor, underdeveloped countries in such places as Latin America and Africa. The discussion centered on nations in the latter two categories.

In the Arab countries, the laws regulating work by outsiders are very strict and enforced to the hilt. In Saudi Arabia, for instance, the only people allowed to operate a business are citizens; therefore, an American consultant must form a partnership with a native who may not do much of the work, but will surely reap much of the profit. Also, an entrance visa allows a foreigner to work on a specific job at a specific place only. You can find yourself in big trouble should you try to switch jobs while in the country.

In this corner of the world it is not uncommon for price proposals to be required for long-term projects, rigidly setting the consultant's income, while his expenses may rise dramatically during the same period. Also, penalty clauses are widely used in consulting contracts, and they are rigidly enforced, resulting in a loss of up to 20% of the fee for failure to complete the work on time. There are problems with payments, too. The client country may specify that part of the fee be paid in local currency, which can't be taken out of the country. Naturally, the consultant must spend this money on local technical help and supplies.

### Underdeveloped Countries

The underdeveloped countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America present an altogether different set of problems. Since these nations are generally very poor, engineering and construction will be financed by one of the various development banks: the World Bank, the Inter-American Bank, etc. These institutions will often assist the appropriate ministry of the client country in the consultant selection process. Projects in these underdeveloped areas tend to lean toward rural development (irrigation, transportation, etc.) designed to keep the people on the land, as opposed to the Arab oil countries where industrial development, city building, and the like, are the rule.

One of the problems in dealing with the underdeveloped countries is simply getting there! Connections may be available only once a week. And once you do get there, you might have to sit on your hands while the local political scene heats up and cools down.

Mr. Conrad did note that some of his firm's projects have had fascinating side-lights. For instance, the South Koreans

have a penchant for constructing long and wide highway tangent sections. The reason: they can be used as emergency airfields. As an afterthought, concrete columns were placed along these roads, to be toppled over onto the roadway in case their cousins to the North get ideas about using the roads.

Varied and provocative questions from the enthusiastic audience were directed to, and were answered forthrightly, by our very articulate and interesting speaker. Many Section members recounted their own professional experiences abroad.

At the conclusion of the address and floor discussion, President Pennoni presented Mr. Conrad the Section's Certificate of Appreciation and a copy of the Section-authored Bicentennial Celebration Book: "History of Civil Engineering and Construction in the Delaware Valley."

The Section is grateful to **Wallace & Tiernan** Division of Pennwalt Corporation, which hosted the Happy Hour before the meeting; and whose representatives displayed an exhibit at the meeting. They explained cathodic protection systems against corrosion; and water treatment procedures - both of which are specialties of the Company.

It was a very rewarding and informative evening.

### SHAW HONORED for MEAD AWARD

As announced in THE NEWS, October, 1978, **David S. Shaw**, of Royersford, Pa., a member of the Philadelphia Section Associate Member Forum, and also a member of the Reading Branch, was the 1978 Zone 1 winner of the Daniel W. Mead Prize for Associate Members. His winning paper was entitled: "The Battle Within and Without the Code of Ethics," based on the theme: "When in Rome Do as the Romans: Should the Professional and Business Ethics of American Engineers be a Function of the Country in Which They Practice?"

At the November 14th Section meeting, President Pennoni presented Mr. Shaw a National ASCE Certificate of Award for his prize paper. Chuck was substituting for ASCE President-Elect **Joseph S. Ward**, who was scheduled to be the Section's honored guest at the meeting, but was unable to attend.

The Section extends its heartiest congratulations to Dave Shaw and wishes him well in his new position with the Consulting Engineering firm of D'Ambly, Inc., Philadelphia. He was formerly associated with Greeley & Hansen, Philadelphia.

**Editors Note:** THE NEWS is indebted to Section President Chuck Pennoni for the reports on the following two Conferences which he attended: The ASCE National Convention and the District 4 Council Meeting.

### ASCE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Chicago, Ill.—October 16-20, 1978

This Fall's ASCE National Conference in Chicago was a great success, with more than 4,000 Civil Engineers attending.

From the Phila. Section and Reading Branch, **Bob Gifford, Joe Welsh, Bob Koerner, Brian Lewis** and **Chuck Pennoni** attended.

Space limitations preclude detailing the numerous items attended to by National ASCE Board of Direction. Some highlighted items of interest are:

1. Council of Section Presidents: a two day workshop where National and Local activities were discussed, such as:
  - Minority Action Programs.
  - Ethics and Professionalism.
  - Maintaining professional competence - the state of Iowa now requires 45 Professional Development Hours (PDH) of study per year to renew a license (10 PDH - 1 CEU).
  - Implementing Manual 55 - Conditions of Employment.
2. There were many "side-bar" conversations regarding the pending Sunset Bills - wherein a Board is abolished is not justified at the end of each year. This could abolish some Registration Boards. Also discussed was the consumerism move to add public members to Registration Boards.
3. President Pennoni was particularly impressed with the number of students in attendance. In conversation with many, he learned that their Student Chapter paid for round trip transportation and one night's lodging.
4. There were many exhibitors at the Conference - about 60 cement products and computers were the most prevalent.
5. President Walter Blessey was installed in office. His address covered many areas, some of which were:
  - The Civil Engineer must improve his public image.
  - Civil Engineers must become active in the Political Arena.
  - Section and Branch activities must be increased.
  - There must be more Section/Student Chapter involvement.
  - Historic Civil Engineering landmarks and Outstanding Civil Engineers should be recognized.
  - Civil Engineers must get involved

in Educational Programs at the University level.

- Ethics and professionalism must be emphasized.

**Editor's Note:** The District 4 Council, which meets annually, provides an opportunity for each Section to compare activities and learn from each other's experience. In addition, the Section representatives are able to convey to the District 4 Director their positions on significant National Board agenda items.

### DISTRICT 4 COUNCIL

Following is a summary of the items discussed at the September 29 and 30, 1978 ASCE District 4 Council meeting held in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. **Ken Zitomer, Bob Gifford, Rodger Alley** and **Chuck Pennoni** representing the Phila. Section and Reading Branch attended. The meeting was chaired by District 4 Director **Ron Drnevich** and Zone I Vice President **Chan Rogers**. National President-elect **Joe Ward** and representatives from the Pittsburgh, Central and Lehigh Sections attended.

1. As requested by the Philadelphia Section Board of Directors the following subjects were discussed:
  - National collection of dues - this will become reality in 1979 and will be at the option of the Section.
  - The method of nomination and election of Honorary Members, currently very cumbersome is being re-studied.
  - The cost of National Conventions is being studied with particular note being given to protecting the local Section from using their normal operating funds for convention expenses.
2. It was decided not to assess the Sections for 1978-79 expenses since there are adequate funds in the District 4 account.
3. District 4 passed a resolution recognizing the need for a better transportation program in Pennsylvania and appropriate funding.
4. President-elect Ward outlined a very energetic membership program focusing on Student Chapters and young engineers for an effort to increase ASCE membership.
5. Vice President Rogers discussed the current efforts to balance the membership numbers in each Zone. If approved, there will be some shifting of Sections from Zone to Zone. District 4 will not be affected.
6. There was lengthy discussion on various items of legislation, some of

### THE FALL SOCIAL

at the Wintz's

The Philadelphia Section's 1978 Fall Social was hosted by **Joseph and Jeanette Wintz** at their beautiful Rydal home on Sunday, November 5th. This was the third annual "at-home" party. Last year the affair was held at the Oak Lane residence of **Ken and Marie Zitomer**; and in 1976, **Ted and Eleanor Davis** were hosts at their Hatboro home.

As always, the event was sponsored and arranged by the Section's Women's Auxiliary as a fund-raiser for the **Annette Estrada Memorial Fund** to assist deserving Civil Engineering Students at area colleges.

Joe and Jeanette were assisted splendidly by their son **Rob** and his attractive wife **Phyllis**, in providing for everyone's needs with dexterity and accommodation. An added special treat was the revelation of Joe Wintz's exceptional talent as an organist and pianist. He played several compositions on the custom-built organ which he helped to design. He also displayed a unique musical birthday gift from Jeanette: a full-sized harpsichord kit which he is in process of building. Joe hopes to have the instrument completed by Christmas.

Much credit is due **Paula (Mrs. Robert M.) Koerner**, Fall Social Committee Chairman, who helped Mrs. Wintz in coordinating the countless details. The Section's gratitude is extended to the many ladies of the Auxiliary who contributed a great variety of original and savory delicacies, and to the Section members who paid modest admission fees to cover costs and enhance the Memorial Fund.

It is a foregone conclusion that when our illustrious Auxiliary conducts a function it will be outstanding. This year's Fall Social was no exception. Congratulations to them - and special p'audits to the gracious and hard-working Wintz family for providing a memorable day to all who attended the marvelous party.

which are:

- Licensing and Registration of Geologists.
  - Increasing the gasoline tax by 3-1/3¢.
  - Energy conservation.
  - Sunset Bill.
  - Registration Act - Engineers and Surveyors.
  - Public Members on Registration Board.
7. The meeting was adjourned with the re-election of Director Drnevich as Chairman.