

# the news



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PHILADELPHIA SECTION  
**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS**  
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VOL. 52 - 7

**OUR 67th YEAR**

April - May, 1980

## APRIL JOINT MEETING

Philadelphia Post, Society of American Military Engineers  
Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

**TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1980**

Engineers' Club, 1317 Spruce Street

Cocktails — 5:30 P.M.      Dinner — 6:30 P.M.      Meeting — 7:30 P.M.

**SUBJECT:**

**SEPTA: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

**SPEAKER:**

**DAVID L. GUNN**, General Manager, SEPTA

**PROGRAM HOST:**

**WILLIARD R. WHITBRED, JR.**, Chairman, T. & U. D. Group

David L. Gunn was appointed General Manager of SEPTA in August 1979. Before coming to SEPTA, Mr. Gunn spent five years with Boston's Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. From 1975 to 1979, Mr. Gunn was Director of Operations for the MBTA, and in that capacity supervised the operations planning, commuter rail, engineering and maintenance, transportation, rail equipment maintenance, and automotive equipment maintenance departments.

Mr. Gunn received his A.B. from Harvard College in 1959 and an M.B.A. from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1964.

**SPECIAL FEATURE:**

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA NIGHT**

The ASCE Student Chapter, faculty and alumni of the Civil and Urban Engineering Dept. of the University of Pa. will be honored at this meeting. All students, faculty, alumni and friends are cordially invited to attend.

## TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

### GEOTECHNICAL

Date: **Tuesday, April 1, 1980**

7 P. M. - Engineers' Club

Subject: **Autopsy of Off-shore Pile Load Test in Iran**

Speaker: **Dr. S. V. Nathan**, Woodward-Clyde Consultants, Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

Program Host: **Jim C. Alexander**, Chairman, Geotechnical Group

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### STRUCTURAL

Date: **Wednesday, April 23, 1980**

Luncheon - 12:00 noon - Engineers' Club

Subject: **"Reconstruction of the Manasquan Inlet Jetties using Precast Concrete Armor Units"**

Speaker: **Vincent Calvarese**

Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia

Program Host: **Dr. Ish K. Aneja**, Chairman, Structural Group

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

### Ted Davis Retires

The Consulting firm of Rothbaum & Davis, 215 S. Broad Street, Phila., announces the retirement of **Theodore Davis**, partner, as of March 31, 1980. The long and successful partnership will thus be dissolved on that date. **Milton W. Rothbaum** will continue to practice Consulting Structural Engineering, in association with Pennoni Associates, Inc., Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Section extends its  
(continued on page 5)

## !! The Annual Spring Social !!

**SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1980**

**BALA GOLF CLUB**

50th Street and Woodbine Avenue, Philadelphia

for your listening and dancing pleasure — the music of  
**MIKE SOLICK ORCHESTRA**

COCKTAILS: 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. (Cash Bar)

DINNER: **PRIME RIBS OF BEEF** 6:00 P.M.

Call or Send for your Tickets Today . . . Guests Welcome  
— \$17.50 per person —

Please make checks payable to Women's Auxiliary, ASCE and send for tickets to:  
**MRS. WALLACE A. (Joan) RUTECKI**  
7112 Pennsylvania Avenue, Bywood, Upper Darby, Pa. 19082  
(215) 352-3746

No Dinner Reservation Mailing Cards will be sent until further notice. Please call Mr. deKovacs at the Engineers' Club immediately. (215) 735-5234.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Engineering community has just successfully completed Engineers' Week in the Delaware Valley. Our Section actively participated in the many events of the week. The Proclamation Luncheon, which heralded the need for engineers in the community, had the theme of "Engineers, our Renewable Resource." At the conclusion of Engineers' Week a banquet was held at the Benjamin Franklin Institute. The engineers displayed their input to the community and the world through the many exhibits at the banquet.

Speaking of renewable resources, the Society is responding to what is clearly the major national concern of our time—Energy. Known energy resources are greater today than at any time in history, but oil and gas reserves upon which the world is heavily dependent are diminishing rapidly and their continued availability at any price is uncertain. Now, more than ever, technologies must be advanced since energy without question makes possible the economic basis of our society as we know it and we simply cannot do without it. Engineering has been an indispensable ingredient in the provision of energy in the past and will be in the future.

I have taken some of the quotes of our National President, Joseph S. Ward, in the above phrases only to emphasize the direction of the Society.

We are now winding down to the May meeting which is the conclusion of the 1979-80 term of office. In reviewing the status, I find that the attendance at meetings has been satisfactory, as has been the involvement of members in planning and developing programs. However, there are few new faces at meetings. Continuing for plans for the balance of the year, we are in good shape and we look forward to the conclusion of a successful year.

May I express my deep appreciation to the Section's Board of Directors, the Technical Group Chairmen and their loyal assistants, for their intensive efforts to make my administration a progressive one. And most of all, to those Active Members who, by their support — financial, professional and participation — have made possible the continuing viable and successful programs of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE.

And now — our hands are outstretched to help the incoming new President, the dynamic, energetic and personable **Joe Syrnick** — who has long made his mark, in the rise through the hierarchy of official administration — as one of the most outstanding members of the Section.

Thank you all — — and Good Luck, Joe!

Sincerely,

KENNETH J. ZITOMER, *President*  
Phila. Section, A.S.C.E.

### PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS OFFICERS 1979 - 1980

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## Editorial

### THE ZITOMER PRESIDENCY

"... In his quiet, unassuming way, he gets things done..." Thus, do we who have known **Ken Zitomer** through the years, both in ASCE and in our professional contacts with him throughout his long and devoted service in public works for the City of Philadelphia — best characterize this outstanding man. Nor, it seems, can he ever get "riled up", vexed or nettled by pressures and eventualities under which lesser men inevitably falter.

Ken's past year as President of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE attests to this enviable quality. The job is a tough one, vulnerable to tantalizing problems and tormenting decisions. President Zitomer proved his administrative ability by facing up to these problems and decisions with discretion, fairness and intelligence. Still, in accomplishing

these things, he did not compromise the good nature and unselfish disposition which are the hallmarks of his personality. He refuses stubbornly to suppress his sense of reality and modesty of ambition. In his inaugural President's Message published in THE NEWS in October, 1979, he acknowledges the limits of what is to be expected: "... Even the preliminary work in organizing another exciting year for the Philadelphia Section will probably not be done before my term is completed. There never seems to be enough time..."

Well, Mr. President, admittedly there were a few lapses. Perhaps you bore some personal responsibility for them — and you were the first to admit it. But these deficiencies were far and away outnumbered by the positive, constructive innovations you put in place during your occupancy of the Chair.

We thank you for your accomplishments, because the Philadelphia Sec-

tion is much the better for what you contributed to it. We are gratified and comforted by the assurance that you will continue to serve on the Board of Directors — as a Past President — for an additional three-year period. You will thereby remain aware of, and a participant in, all of the initiatives with which the Section is involved and associated.

The Philadelphia Section extends its best wishes to you for success in your new job as Acting Water Commissioner for the City of Philadelphia. We know and expect that your invaluable contributions to the betterment of the City will also accrue to the Section's welfare and progress in the future. Thank you for a splendid year!

And now — Welcome Aboard and Good Luck, **Joe Syrnick**. We await your designs and plans, Mr. President, and we promise to help you in your difficult tasks.

**MARCH MEETING****Engineers' Club March 11, 1980**

The Phila. Section's March meeting was sponsored and arranged by the Structural Group, **Dr. Ish K. Aneja**, Chairman and Program Host for the event. Featured speaker was **Allen J. Hulshizer**, Supervising Structural Engineer, United Engineers and Constructors, Inc., Philadelphia. Mr. Hulshizer's subject was: "The Seabrook Nuclear Station Design and Construction."

The evening paid special tribute to the Department of Civil and Urban Engineering and the ASCE Student Chapter of the Widener College.

**ASCE Summer Institute Students**

Special invited guests at the meeting were 4 Phila. Area high school students who attended a summer engineering pre-indoctrination study program sponsored by National ASCE Committee on Minority Programs (C.O.M.P.) The Phila. Section and Reading Branch subsidized the local participation under the guidance of Past President **Lawrence M. Moy**, who has been active for many years on the National ASCE Committee. This year the 2-week course for the eastern region was held at Northeastern University, Boston, Mass.

The 4 students present and introduced by Mr. Moy were:

- Gina Cabbage** —  
Overbrook High School
- Lydia Mable** —  
John Bartram High School
- Reginald Bailey** —  
St. Joseph's Prep School
- Rene Jimenez** —  
Edison High School

A fifth student participant was unable to attend the meeting. She is **Charmayne Williams**, University City High School.

Presiding very capably over the meeting was Vice President **Joseph R. Syrnick**, who filled in for President Zitomer, who was detained because of the critical illness of his mother.

**Editor's Note:** Because this issue of THE NEWS went to press immediately after the meeting date, there was no time to print a detailed write-up of Mr. Hulshizer's talk written by Structural Group Vice Chairman **David M. Barr, III**, it will appear — with other details of the meeting — in the next issue (October, 1980).

Take THE NEWS home. Your wife will be interested in the Women's Auxiliary activities!

**FEBRUARY MEETING****Engineers' Club February 19, 1980**

The February meeting of the Philadelphia Section, held jointly with the Section's Women's Auxiliary at the Engineers' Club, featured an address by **John C. Mitkus**, Executive Director of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission. Mr. Mitkus' subject was: **Planning for Philadelphia — A Brief Look at the New Decade**. The Section's Program Committee Chairman, **Norman G. Weintraub**, was Program Host.

**Swarthmore Night**

Specially honored at the meeting were the ASCE Student Chapter, faculty and alumni of the Engineering Division of Swarthmore College.

Swarthmore Faculty Advisors, **Prof. M. Joseph Willis** and **Prof. Arthur McGarity** both were unable to attend — Mr. Willis because of illness, and Mr. McGarity was out of town. Through ASCE Student Chapter President **Dirk Schoonmaker**, they sent their regrets for their absences, and extended best wishes for the success of the meeting. Dirk introduced his fellow Student Chapter officers and the faculty, alumni and other students in attendance. He also reviewed the Chapter's progress and events past and planned for the future.

**The Auxiliary Joins Us**

The atmosphere of the meeting was rendered especially festive by the delightful presence of many members of the Section's Women's Auxiliary. President Ann (Mrs. James D.) Leasure extended greetings to the gathering and invited all Section members to prevail upon their wives to join the Auxiliary in order to maintain the viable momentum of that exceptional organization.

**Phila.'s Recent History & Development**

In a talk unmired in tiresome statistics, charts and graphs — but revealing a keen insight and knowledge of Philadelphia's renaissance, Mr. Mitkus briefly traced the City's development from the 1950's and projected the hopes and expectations of the new decade.

The 1950's and 1960's witnessed mainly the planning, building and redevelopment of center city commercial areas. Penn Center was essentially completed, and the college campuses (Drexel, Temple, U. of Pa.) were dramatically expanded. The public school system construction and diversification programs experienced an osmosis because of the great increases in Puerto Rican immigration to the City and the increased concentration of the black population within the system's jurisdiction.

The 1970's generated a new focus: from buildings to people. Environmental issues, mass transit, public services became the top priorities of the planners and administrators of the City.

**Projections of the 1980's**

Mr. Mitkus listed important basic assumptions which could affect growth:

1. Cities will be major centers of population because of energy shortages and soaring costs of fuels. (Paradoxically, however, Mr. Mitkus' statistics show that city dwellers will travel relatively far distances to fulfill their recreational needs and desires).

2. There will be continuing infrastructural metamorphoses as city-proper rehabilitation and new construction in the suburbs unfold as economic balancing integrants.

3. The ramifications of national politics will come into prominence as they influence the housing climate, and as factors to attract business and industry to stimulate economic growth.

**Population Changes and Problems**

Director Mitkus naturally regrets Philadelphia's continuous population decline since the 1960's (1960 — 2,000,000; expected 1980 census — 1,750,000) as the emigration of the middle-to-affluent families to the suburbs has been offset in large part by the increase in households of the poor and minorities.

Changes in age-groups statistics are and will continue to be dramatic. In the 1980's about 3.5 out of 10 persons will be over 75 years old. This inevitably spawns demand for special municipal provisions in housing, recreation, social and medical facilities and services.

In the new decade, Spanish-speaking people and the black population will constitute about 4% and 36%, respectively, of the non-Caucasian population of Philadelphia. This, too begets the necessity for City services to meet the special needs of these groups. And it further exacerbates the profound fiscal challenges of the City administration.

**Industry Flight and Jobs Loss**

Since 1970, pointed out our speaker, Philadelphia has suffered a 12% (75,000 jobs) loss in employment because of the emigration of industry from the City. He is encouraged, though, that this deficiency will be arrested and reversed as initiatives are implemented to devalue derelict, abandoned commercial and industrial strips and areas. The new Navy Yard contracts to renovate ships like the Saratoga; the Port of Phila. and Airport improvements inevitably will add thousands of jobs to

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## FEBRUARY MEETING

(continued from page 3)

the City's inventory. With these developments, it is hoped that the National Headquarters of large corporations will re-assess Philadelphia's advantages and relocate here.

Mr. Mitkus calls for a reexamination of the Civic Center complex. Is it in the wrong location? Are there not serious problems of accessibility which are getting worse instead of better? There is much study and analyses required on this substantive issue.

### Center City vs. Neighborhoods

Our Planning Director and his staff are evaluating the pressures and incentives to balance the municipal accommodations among center-city areas and the 110 neighborhoods. These accommodations include: recreation; hospitals and health service centers; utilities; street maintenance and cleaning, snow removal, etc; and, possibly, branch administrative offices. "Every neighborhood has potential for growth and revitalization," proclaims Mr. Mitkus. "These opportunities should be exploited without delay . . ."

Occupant-ownership of neighborhood private dwellings should be encouraged and assisted with Federal - City coordination where necessary, emphasized Mr. Mitkus.

### Transportation — the Enigma of SEPTA

Mass transportation for Philadelphia in the 1980's hinges principally, of course, on SEPTA which, for better or worse, will probably continue to exist for the benefit of the elderly and the poor. Mr. Mitkus reviewed SEPTA's problems and projected hopeful cooperative recourse efforts between City and State for assistance. earmarked for improvements of rights-of-way of elevated lines, subway and surface routes is a \$320 million subsidy grant, combined with fare increases to raise revenues.

Other important transportation developments on Director Mitkus' agenda include the International Airport High Speed Line from mid-town; the Center City Commuter Rail Connection between Reading Terminal and Suburban Station; and a new bus terminal.

But, significant as these latter items are, the success of a transportation program depends on the viability of SEPTA. A clean, safe, mass transit system, points out Mr. Mitkus, is essential to the life-blood of the City.

### Highways

Not to be minimized, underestimated or ignored are the needs for new high-

way construction maintenance and improvements. But Mr. Mitkus offers little optimism for expressway advocates. His opinion is that the new decade will perceive the gradual demise of expressways in the Delaware Valley region. He does not foresee a Vine Street Expressway; but rather, a Vine Street Arterial.

### Other Projections

**Penn's Landing** should be completed during the 80's. Thus far the cost is \$38 million and much remains to be done.

**Market Street East** — Second stage of Reading Terminal restoration and rehabilitation (a Rouse Corp. enterprise) will be completed, together with a resurgence of presently-suspended new office building construction.

**Franklinton** — **Market Street West** projects should blossom: commercial structures, hotels, residential groupings and cultural facilities.

**Delaware River, Penn Treaty Park and Wildlife Centers.** Improvements should open up the waterfronts for parkland, housing and recreation — not just for commercial and hotel development. Mr. Mitkus contemplates improvements in criminal justice facilities, health care delivery systems (nursing homes, medical clinics, etc.)

Regretfully, Mr. Mitkus addresses the realities of the negatives. Philadelphia must pull in the reins in face of continuing financial crises. He foresees little or no expansion of libraries, free medical services, and recreational facilities where they are needed most — in the poorer neighborhoods and ghettos.

Energy consciousness must always interpenetrate our designs, plans and actions. We must carefully, logically evaluate, too, the good that we can accomplish with the bad that we cannot eradicate — and count our blessings! As we enter the new decade — the new hopes and the new challenges — counsels Director Mitkus, we ask ourselves: "From whence have we come, and whither shall we go . . ."

Following his stimulating address, Mr. Mitkus faced penetrating questions and comments from the floor in a discussion period. He despatched himself admirably. In all, his splendid talk was not only enlightening, it was also peppered abundantly with humor and wit. And the audience was pleased.

President Zitomer presented Mr. Mitkus the Section's Certificate of Appreciation and a complimentary copy of the Section's Bicentennial Year National ASCE Convention publication: "The History of Civil Engineering and Construction in the Delaware Valley."

## STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

**Heinz Isler**, a civil engineer from Burdorf, Switzerland, spoke at Drexel University on Friday, March 28, 1980. His topic of discussion was on "Experimental Shell Design".

Mr. Isler lectured on experimental methods of shell design which can be used to solve shell problems at different levels.

Mr. Isler is currently working at Princeton University. Many of his experimental shell designs are on display at their museum.

## CONCRETE CANOE RACES

The Associate Member Forum announces the annual Philadelphia Concrete Canoe Races. This year's races will be held on **Saturday, April 12, 1980**. The first race will get underway at approximately 9:30 a.m. on the Schuylkill River rowing course with additional races continuing into mid-afternoon. Colleges expected to compete this year include; Villanova, Penn, Drexel and Temple as well as other local and out of town schools. Races will be held rain or shine with the finish line located at the viewing stands on the East River Drive. All Philadelphia Section members are cordially invited to attend this year's event and root for an alma mater.

## ETSCO CAREER PROGRAM A SUCCESS

The Engineering and Technical Societies Council of the Delaware Valley (ETSCO) held their 22nd Annual Science - Engineering - Technology (SET) Program at Drexel University on Saturday, February 16, 1980. The purpose of this conference is to provide secondary school students with an opportunity to assess the requirements, advantages, and limitations of careers in science, engineering and technology. Over 250 high school students participated.

The Philadelphia Section ASCE under the leadership of Section Director **John Carroll** hosted a morning workshop on Civil Engineering and participated with APWA in an afternoon theme seminar on Transportation.

The SET program was timed to coincide with Engineers' Week and emphasized the 1980 theme, "Engineers — Our Renewable Resource".

In addition to Mr. Carroll the Phila. Section was represented by **Charlene O'Connor**, **Ernest Brizell** and **Mary Mancini**.

**MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**

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heartiest wishes for happiness and good health to Ted, long-time Treasurer and devoted member of the Section, in his retirement; and to Past President Rothbaum (1967-1968) for continued fulfillment in his new association with the firm headed by Past President **Chuck Pennoni**.

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**Judy Longfield Promoted**

Congratulations and best wishes of the Philadelphia Section are extended to Membership Secretary **Judy Y. Longfield** on her recent promotion to Principal Engineer of the Environmental Systems Division, Catalytic, Inc., Phila., Pa.

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**Roll Edits Structural Volume**

Phila. Section Vice President **Frederic Roll**, with Edward Cohen, a partner in the Consulting firm of Ammann and Whitney, are the American editors of a **Handbook of Structural Concrete** which will be published in England by Pitman Publishing, Ltd. Their English co-editors are Dr. F. K. Long of Cambridge University, and Prof. R. H. Evans, Emeritus Professor of Leeds University.

Fred recently returned from England where he met with the publishers and English editors. He is a Professor of Civil & Urban Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania.

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**Prof. Lee Appointed**

**Dr. William W. L. Lee**, Assistant Professor of Civil & Urban Engineering, University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed Chairman of the Sessions Program Committee of the Energy Technical Division of ASCE. He will be charged with coordinating Energy Division's participation in ASCE Conventions and Conferences, as well as ASCE participation in the American Power Conference, Energy Technology Conference and Exhibition, and the Joint Power Generation Conference. Anyone with ideas or suggestions may contact Bill Lee at (215) 243-4815.

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**Halloran Receives Award**

**Harry R. Halloran**, President of The Conduit & Foundation Corp., has been honored with the "1980 Award of Merit" by the University of Pennsylvania. His citation praises him as the founder and President of a successful heavy construction company and a leader in pro-

fessional organizations. Mr. Halloran is thus installed into the Gallery of Distinguished Engineering Alumni of the University's College of Engineering and Applied Science. The citation also hails him as "... an interested alumnus, a Fellow and Charter Member of the Benjamin Franklin Associates, President of the Class of 1923, and an informed advisor on civic and political matters. . ."

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**Lotz Elected by S.A.M.E.**

The Philadelphia Post, Society of American Military Engineers (S.A.M.E.) recently elected **William F. Lotz**, President of William F. Lotz, Inc., a construction company, a Post Director for a three-year term. Mr. Lotz, a member of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE, is a former Engineer-of-the-Year of Delaware Valley.

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**Popovics Book Published**

**Sandor Popovics**, Drexel University, wrote a book entitled **Concrete Making Materials** that was published recently by McGraw-Hill Publishing Company. The book deals with the properties and applications of cements, admixtures and aggregates.

Dr. Popovics also recently had a paper published entitled "**Judging the Precision and Reliability of Standard Test Methods**" that appeared in the last issue of the **ASTM Cement, Concrete and Aggregates**. The paper uses the standard slump test for the illustration of the reliability evaluation of test methods related to construction.

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**Nugent Elected Mayor**

**M. Charles Nugent**, former Director of the Philadelphia Section has been elected Mayor of Ewing Township, New Jersey. Charlie had previously served 3 years on the Township Council. Congratulations of the Section are extended to our good friend.

**ATTENTION - SECTION MEMBERS**

If your job location, business or residential address for mailing is changed; or if you move out of the Philadelphia Section area jurisdiction; or if you do not receive Section mailings (THE NEWS, special notices, etc.), please notify Secretary **Albert M. Tantala**, c/o Tantala Associates, 4903 Frankford Ave., Phila., PA 19124 — Phone: (215) 289-4600.

**WOMEN'S AUXILIARY****April Tour and Luncheon**

Something very different and venturesome is in store for the Auxiliary Membership at their regular monthly Luncheon-Meeting on **Wednesday, April 16, 1980**. It is luncheon at **Moshulu Restaurant** aboard the Tall Ship, Penn's Landing at the Chestnut Mall. The gathering will also see an Exhibit and learn the sea lore of one of the world's greatest and most famous sailing ships. Luncheon will be at 12:00 Noon.

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**May Luncheon at Whitemarsh**

The final function of the current season for the Auxiliary is the ever-enjoyable and popular meeting at the Whitemarsh Country Club, Lafayette Hill, Pa., on **Wednesday, May 21, 1980, 12:00 noon**. New officers for the 1980-1981 year will be installed. There will be little other business, just enjoyable conversation and fun. The speaker will be **Mrs. Peter Florey**, whose topic is: "Art Comes to Whitemarsh." Guests are cordially invited to attend all Auxiliary meetings, including the Whitemarsh Luncheon.

For reservations and full information on the April and May affairs, please call Hospitality Chairperson **Mary Ellen (Mrs. Warren R.) Van DeVort** — (215) 483-0714.

The featured happening of the season, of course, is the **Annual Spring Social** at the Bala Golf Club on Sunday, May 4, 1980. See Page one for details.

**METROPOLITAN SECTION  
STRUCTURE GROUP SEMINAR****Practical Consideration in Structural  
Design and Detailing**

The New York Metropolitan Section Structures Technical Group announces a spring seminar on April 16, 17, 23 and 24, 1980, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., United Engineering Center, New York City.

The seminar is intended for engineers involved in the design of new structures or in the inspection and rehabilitation of existing structures. Many items will be presented to answer questions arising in daily practice and to provide information on recent developments. Participants will receive a set of notes that will serve as a useful reference.

Sessions will be held on Steel, Concrete, Prestressed Concrete and Masonry.

The Registration fee is \$75.00 (\$80.00 for non-ASCE members) and \$25.00 for full-time students. For full information and registration forms, call **Ira Hooper** at (212) 867-4000 or **David Kossover** at (212) 938-8214.

**Editor's Note:** Past President **Robert M. Koerner** called to the attention of THE NEWS the following item, with the comment: "... I wonder if industrialists (and engineers) in the United States will ever be held accountable in this manner!"

### **Pollution Case Figure Is Shot To Death In Italy**

The chief engineer of a chemical plant that four years ago caused Italy's worst pollution disaster was shot and killed outside his home in Monza today.

The police said four people ambushed Paolo Paoletti, 39 years old, of the Swiss-owned Icmesa plant, fired at least three bullets into his head and then threw a smoke bomb to cover their escape by car.

A woman telephoned an Italian news agency later to say that the "Front Line" far-left urban guerrilla group was responsible.

Mr. Paoletti was one of several people charged with culpability for an explosion at the plant, just outside Seveso in northern Italy, in July 1976. About 4.4 pounds of Dioxin, a highly toxic chemical, polluted a vast area.

Hundreds of families were evacuated and more than 600 children developed skin diseases. The area around the plant is still closed to the public.

Mr. Paoletti was briefly arrested and then released and later spent most of his time helping in decontamination work.

Local authorities and families of the children affected by the poison cloud are still involved in litigation with Hoffmann-La Roche, the Swiss company that owns the Icmesa plant, and no one has yet been brought to court. Government technical experts are still carrying out decontamination work around Seveso.

### **Society of Women Engineers Reports on Member Survey**

A membership survey by the **Society of Women Engineers (SWE)**, which encompassed approximately 5% of all the graduate women engineers in the country, shows a group which is young, highly educated and with a large percentage of registered members.

"The typical woman engineer . . . is a 27-year-old holder of a degree in **civil engineering** who has worked professionally for less than five years," states the profile compiled from the survey results.

"She is employed full-time by a private business in the field of **civil engineering**. Her area of work is in indus-

trial products and processes, and she spends most of her time on design, analysis, and development. Although she has some administrative responsibilities, she does not directly supervise others."

The survey found that 6% of women engineers have doctorates and 29% hold masters' degrees. **Civil engineering** has the most degree holders with 13%, followed by mechanical and chemical at 12% each, and electrical at 11%.

#### **STATE LICENSE**

One-third of those surveyed had a state license or registration to practice engineering. PE licenses accounted for 12% and engineers-in-training for 21%. The number of EIT's is more than double that reported in the 1974 SWE survey.

Private industry and business predominate as the employers of women engineers, accounting for 64% of the respondents. They were followed by education and non-profit organizations with 9%, and utilities and the federal government, including the military, each with 8%.

The average age of those surveyed was 35, although the largest group of respondents was in the 25-29 age category. "The large influx of young women engineers into the profession is reflected in the fact that 61% of the respondents report five or fewer years of experience," states the survey. The next largest group included those who had six to ten years experience (16%).

### **UNIFORM CODE SOUGHT**

The American Society of Civil Engineers has joined the American Consulting Engineers' Council (ACEC) and the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) in efforts directed toward the development of uniform contract documents for construction and design services.

The addition of ASCE to the Engineers' Joint Contract Documents Committee is expected to serve the objective of a single, comprehensive set of contract documents that will "clearly delineate responsibilities, reduce unwarranted liability and serve the interests of the public and clients for design or construction services.

Substitution of a single set of documents for the duplicative publications offered independently by various organizations is a basic objective of the joint activity initiated by ACEC and NSPE in 1974: endorsement and distribution by the three societies is expected to further strengthen acceptance and use of the documents by professionals, contractors and clients.

### **MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICES SEMINAR**

Boeing Computer Services, a leading supplier of engineering computing services, will conduct two seminars on **April 23, 1980** at the Engineers' Club. The morning seminar is geared to computer technology available to those dealing with municipal water services, hydrology, storm water modeling and related civil engineering functions. In the afternoon CAPDET — Computer Assisted Procedure for the Design and Evaluation of Water Treatment Facilities — will be presented and discussed.

Instructors at the seminar are **James Chamblee**, Chief, Priorities and Needs Assessment Branch, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D. C., who has been at EPA six years; and **Karen Klima** of the same branch of EPA HQ. Ms. Klima directs the technical aspects of the 1980 Needs Survey and estimates of the national costs for construction of needed municipal wastewater treatment systems.

In view of the passage of the Stormwater Management Act in Pennsylvania, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers involvement in hydrology and EPA's development and interest in CAPDET, these sessions should be of importance to all professionals in these areas.

The sessions are structured so that you may attend either or both. To reserve space at these free seminars contact **Pete Tolenti** of BCS or his secretary at (215) 522-3600 at the earliest opportunity, as seating will be limited.

### **NATIONAL GUARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

The Maryland Air National Guard has part-time Officer vacancies in the 235th Civil Engineers Flight located at Glenn L. Martin State Airport, Baltimore, MD. Openings exist for architects and mechanical, electrical and civil engineers in grades of Lieutenant and Captain.

For further information on this challenging opportunity, contact **Howell B. Simmons**, Paciulli, Simmons & Associates, 307 Maple Ave., West, Vienna, VA 22180, telephone (703) 281-5800.

THE NEWS on behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of the Phila. Section, ASCE, extends to the Membership its Best Wishes for a pleasant and productive Spring and Summer Season.

We look forward to your continued support and attendance at the 1980-1981 meetings starting next Fall.