

# the news



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PHILADELPHIA SECTION  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

VOL. 55 - 5

OUR 70th YEAR

February, 1983

## FEBRUARY DINNER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1983**

Engineers' Club, 1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia

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

### SUBJECT:

**PLANNING FOR CLEAN AIR IN PHILADELPHIA:** The Potential of Public Transit

### SPEAKER:

**RON ROGGENBURK**, Supervisor of Environmental Program; and Project Manager of Transportation and Air Quality Group, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Can we achieve air quality improvement by making public transit more attractive in our City? Is SEPTA the solution to controlling auto emission pollution? These and other substantive, challenging questions will be addressed in Mr. Roggenburk's talk. **PLAN TO ATTEND.**

Ronald J. Roggenburk was designated to his present position in 1980. His cur-  
(continued on page 2)

## MARCH DINNER MEETING

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1983**

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

### SUBJECT:

**ENGINEERING IN OUTER SPACE:** Spacelab and the Space Shuttle

### SPEAKER:

**JACK DICKINSON**, Lead Systems Development Engineer, General Electric Company Space Systems Division; and former Project Manager for NASA on the Spacelab Program, Kennedy Space Center.

The Spacelab and Space Shuttle projects hold great promise for our nation's technological development. They also give special challenges and opportunities to civil engineers. They are mankind's newest space adventures; and attendees will get a first hand, up-to-the minute picture of how they were developed, where the future opportunities are, and what it all means.

### SPECIAL EVENT:

**PRESENTATION OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES**

### SPECIAL FEATURE:

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA NIGHT**

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

Please call Mr. deKovacs at the Engineers' Club immediately (215 735-5234), for reservations.

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

## TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

### Geotechnical

#### February Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 1983

Engineers' Club—7:00 p.m.

Subject: **Groundwater Flow Modeling.**

Speaker: **Dr. J. W. Mercer**, President, GeoTrans, Inc., Reston, Virginia

Program Host: **Dr. Z. I. Husami**, Chairman, Geotechnical Group

Refreshments are served

The enactment of "Superfund" legislation (Public Law 96-152) last year presages the spending of large sums of money to contain and clean up inactive sites and spills of hazardous substances. To optimize the limited resources available (both private and public) for the solution of this problem, and to maximize the protection of public health and the environment, remedial and containment actions must be adequately selected, designed and monitored. A planning tool that can be used to assist in these activities is groundwater modeling. Simulation of remedial actions during the planning stages can provide decision makers with considerable insight in making knowledgeable decisions for appropriate actions to be taken at a site.

James W. Mercer attended Florida State University, and the University of Illinois where he received his Ph.D. in Geology in 1973. Prior to graduation, he worked for the Exxon Oil Corporation, and the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada. Dr. Mercer has taught groundwater modeling at the U. S. G. S. and at George Washington University. He has also co-authored several articles on modeling transport problems in groundwater.

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## NEW TECHNICAL GROUP FORMING

The Philadelphia Section of ASCE announces the initiation of the **Philadelphia Engineering Management Technical Group**.

The purpose of this Group is to increase the engineers' awareness of, and expertise in, sound management techniques and to help prepare members for project and organization leadership. In addition the group will promote an interface between the private engineering and construction sector and the ASCE Membership. This can only be achieved with the active support from the Officers and Membership of the Philadelphia Section. Therefore, an open invitation is extended to Philadelphia Section members to attend the Engineering Management Technical Group's Founder's Meeting to be held on **Wednesday, March 16, 1983** at the Engineers' Club, 1317 Spruce St., Philadelphia. Cocktails and dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the club.

An agenda has been prepared which will introduce the acting officers to the Philadelphia Section, define Group directions and goals and accept suggestions for future meetings. Also a speaker is scheduled, the owner of a major construction project. He will discuss the trials and tribulations involved in such a project as well as the management techniques utilized to avert such problems. (More details of the March 16th meeting will be published in the March, 1983 issue of **THE NEWS**).

This first meeting has all the makings of a success. Please try to attend to be part of this effort. For further information please contact:

**Susan Lior, Chairperson**

T. J. Trauner Associates

Widener Bldg., Chestnut at Juniper

Philadelphia, PA 19107

(215) 854-0887

## FEBRUARY DINNER MEETING

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rent duties include coordinating the implementation of twenty-five strategies to reduce emissions from motor vehicles in the Philadelphia Region. Previously, he managed the Commission's water quality management program in Mercer County, New Jersey. He spent ten years with private engineering firms before joining the Commission in 1975. Mr. Roggenburk attended Carnegie-Mellon and Pennsylvania Universities with degrees in Architecture and Regional Science. A native of Ohio, he now lives in Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania.

### SPECIAL FEATURE:

#### SWARTHMORE COLLEGE 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.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

(Referred to in ballot cards enclosed with this issue)

All Phila. Section Members, who were considered to be Active (dues-paying) Members of the Philadelphia Section on **December 31, 1982**, are asked to vote on two Amendments to the Section's Constitution, which are printed below. If the Section Membership approves inclusion of these Amendments into the Constitution, they will become effective after the ASCE National Board of Direction also votes their approval.

### Amendment 1

#### Associate Member Forum

**Section 1.** The Associate Member Forum of the Philadelphia Section shall have as its membership all members assigned to the Section with the grade of Associate Member.

**Section 2.** The objectives of the Associate Member Forum shall be the same as the objectives of the Section. The Associate Member Forum shall also be charged with contributing to the full professional development and increased participation of its membership in all levels of the Section and National Society.

### Amendment 2

#### Student Member Forum

**Section 1.** The Student Member Forum of the Philadelphia Section shall have as its membership all Student Grade Members who attend schools located within the geographical boundaries of the Section.

**Section 2.** The objectives of the Student Member Forum shall be the same as the objectives of the Section. The Student Member Forum shall also be concerned with all Student Chapter activities in the Section and be responsible for increased participation of its membership in the Section and National Society.

Voting can be accomplished by filling out and mailing the postage free ballot enclosed with this issue of **THE NEWS**.

**All ballots must be received by March 31, 1983.**

## ACI TO CONDUCT SEMINAR

A full-day program on "Concrete Repair and Restoration" will be presented on **Thursday, February 17, 1983** at the Holiday Inn South, Essington, Pa., by the American Concrete Institute. Co-sponsors will be the Delaware Valley Chapter ACI and the Philadelphia Section ASCE.

Topics covered will include: Importance and Methods of a Condition Survey; Types of Repair Materials; Selection of Repair Method; Surface Preparation and Repair Techniques; Repair and Restoration of Steel Corrosion Distress.

For full details and registration forms please contact **Mike Boyle**, (215) 688-8517, or **Randy Cronin**, (215) 643-7363.

## PHILA. SECTION, ASCE OFFICERS 1982 - 1983

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR  
MARCH, 1983 ISSUE  
FEBRUARY 8, 1983**

**TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES**

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**March Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 1983

Engineers' Club—7:00 p.m.

Subject: **Solute Transport Modeling**Speaker: **Dr. Leonard F. Konikow**

Research Hydrologist, U. S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia

Program Host: **Dr. Z. I. Husami**

Chairman, Geotechnical Group

Refreshments are served

Solute-transport models can be used to predict temporal and spatial changes in the concentration of dissolved chemicals in flowing groundwater. The models solve an equation that can include the effects of (1) convective transport, (2) hydrodynamic dispersion, (3) sources and sinks, and (4) chemical reactions. Because these effects are strongly related to the flow field, the solution to the transport equation must usually be coupled with a solution of the groundwater flow equation. Three general classes of numerical methods have been used to solve the solute-transport equation: finite-difference methods, finite-element methods, and the method of characteristics. Each method has some advantages, disadvantages, and special limitations for applications to field problems. The numerical models have been applied successfully to a variety of contamination problems in different hydrogeologic settings, but at present there is no numerical model that is clearly superior to all other models for the whole range of field situations likely to be encountered.

Leonard F. Konikow received his B. A. in Geology from Hofstra University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. He has been affiliated with the Water Resources Division of USGS in Lakewood, Colorado, and Reston, Virginia since 1971. Dr. Konikow is currently Research Hydrologist at the National Center in Reston. Prior to graduate school, he worked as a hydrogeologist for Geraghty and Miller, Inc. Consultants, Port Washington, New York.

Dr. Konikow is Chairman of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Groundwater Committee and serves on the Nominating Committee for Section Fellows and Section Officers of the AGU Hydrology Section. He is also associate editor of **Water Resources Research** and a member of the Geological Society of America. Dr. Konikow is the author of several papers on solute transport modeling.

**Structural****February Meeting**

Date: Thursday, February 24, 1983

Engineers' Club Cocktails: 5:30 P.M.

Dinner: 6:30 P.M. Meeting: 7:30 P.M.

Subject: **Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD)**Speaker: **Dr. Ivan M. Viest**, Assistant Manager, Sales Engineering, Bethlehem Steel Corp., Bethlehem, PAProgram Host: **Stephen H. Golden**,

Chairman, Structural Group

For subject details see THE NEWS, January, 1983.

**Dr. Ivan M. Viest**, a native of Czechoslovakia, was educated in his native country and in the United States where he received degrees from Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois. His past experience included engineering design, construction, teaching, consulting on problems in structural engineering and extensive research studies.

Dr. Viest is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and an honorary member of ASCE.

**March Meeting****Joint Dinner Meeting with Transportation and Urban Development Group**

Date: Thursday, March 24, 1983

Engineers' Club—Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.—Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Subject: **Second Greater New Orleans Bridge**Speaker: **Dr. John Kulicki**, Modjeski & Masters, Harrisburg, Pa.Program Co-Hosts: **Stephen H. Golden**, Chairman, Structural Group**David A. Novick**, Chairman Transportation & Urban Development Group

Designed by Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) (see February 24, 1983 meeting announcement), the discussion will embrace both the design and transportation aspects of the Project.

**Transportation and Urban Development****March Joint Dinner Meeting with Structural Group**

Date: Thursday, March 24, 1983

(see details under Structural Group)

**March Field Trip**

Date: Saturday, March 26, 1983

Meeting Place: **Budd Company**, 1 Red Lion Road, near Veree Road (west of Roosevelt Blvd.), Philadelphia — 9:30 A.M.Subject: **Tour of Budd Company Rapid Transit Car Manufacturing Facilities**Program Host: **David A. Novick**, Chairman, Transportation and Urban Development Group

The Budd Company is in the process

of manufacturing rapid transit cars for Baltimore, Chicago and New York. This is a unique opportunity to see the manufacturing process. **We will assemble at 9:30 A.M. sharp at the main lobby entrance to the plant.** Parking is available across the street (south side of Red Lion Road). Dress casual. Wear comfortable, closed-toed shoes. The tour should last about two hours.

**Please Note:** For safety reasons, persons under eighteen years of age cannot be accommodated.

**Reservations:** If you are planning to attend, please call **Ann Marie Collins** (at Mr. Novick's office) at (215) 988-0696 no later than **March 16**. For additional information, call **Sheldon Kinbar** at (215) 597-4179.

**WEIRD WORDS**

**Editor's Note:** THE NEWS thanks Section Secretary Al Tantala for the following item.

Connoisseurs of the English language and those who only want to occasionally show off to their boss or friends with a fancy phrase may be interested in a book called *Words* by Paul Dickson. It's a collection of very new, very old, and very strange words and terms found in the English language. For example, the book lists 2,231 definitions for "drunk". Here are a few samples:

**Hades:** Hypersonic Air Data Entry System

**Comchoutword:** Word or words that appear on tapes from computerized checkout machines

**Zygomorphous:** Yoke shaped

**Scutch:** Masonry tool used to cut away and finish broken edges

**Sarpel:** A bale of wool weighing 2,240 lb.

**Mother repairer:** One who repairs a metal phonograph matrix

**Bird feed:** Transmission (feed) from an earth orbiting satellite (bird)

**Bissextile:** The correct term for leap year

**Chronon:** One billionth of a trillionth of a second

**Combat emplacement evacuator:** Official Army term for shovel

**Oilberg:** Very large crude-oil-carrying ships

**Nebuchadnezzar:** The largest champagne bottle size, capable of holding 104 glasses. (A standard bottle holds 5 glasses.)

**Floccinaucinihilipilification:** To estimate as worthless. (One of the longest words in the English language. The longest may be a chemical term with 1,913 letters.)

## JANUARY MEETING

January 11, 1983      Engineers' Club  
Transportation Through the 1980's

Well over 200 members, guests and Women's Auxiliary members filled the Engineers' Club auditorium to overflowing at the January Joint Meeting of the Phila. Section, ASCE and its Women's Auxiliary. Principal speaker was **Dr. Thomas D. Larson**, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

### Women's Auxiliary Attendees

Section President Bernard M. McNamee acknowledged the many Women's Auxiliary members in attendance. President **Ruth (Mrs. Francis J.) Depman** sent her warm greetings, and regrets at being unable to attend the Joint Meeting.

### Drexel University Night

The meeting honored the ASCE Student Chapter, alumni and faculty of the Civil Engineering Department of Drexel University. More than 60 proud representatives of that august group attended the meeting.

Faculty Advisor, **Dr. Eugene Parkin** thanked the Section for the invitation and its courtesies; and he introduced members of the faculty, alumni and students.

### Student Chapter Happenings

Drexel ASCE Student Chapter President **Jeffrey Sterner** reviewed the Chapter's activities in its continuing quest to maintain the high caliber of meetings; engagements of prominent speakers; field trips to outstanding engineering projects in the area; sports competitions; and social events. Mr. Sterner expressed the Chapter's gratitude to the Civil Engineering Department faculty at Drexel for its full support of the programs and objectives of the strong student body civil engineering organization. He introduced the other ASCE Student Chapter officers and associates:

Vice Presidents —

**Lisa Nutting** and **Eric Ditchey**

(Mr. Ditchey was not present at the meeting).

Secretary — **Paul Blaum**

Treasurer — **Jim Carpenter**

Editor of Newsletter (THE INFLUENCE LINE) — **Kate Ellis**

### Dean Woodring Summarizes Progress

Drexel College of Engineering Dean **Richard E. Woodring**, an outstanding Civil Engineer and Active Member of ASCE and the Phila. Section, reviewed the College's expansion of the progressive research engineering programs, the

## DREXEL STUDENT CHAPTER AWARD

At the Philadelphia Section's January 11, 1983 meeting, President Bernard M. McNamee (who just happens to be Head of the Department of Civil Engineering at Drexel University!!) had the pleasure to present to the Drexel ASCE Student Chapter the National ASCE Commendation Award for its "Outstanding Activities and Achievements in 1982".

Dr. McNamee presented the Certificate to the Student Chapter delegation of Faculty Advisor **Dr. Eugene Parkin**; Contact Members **Joseph R. Syrnick** and **Charles J. Denny**; and Student Chapter President **Jeffrey Sterner**.

The Philadelphia Section congratulates the Drexel Student Chapter for this National ASCE recognition of its excellent qualities.

crowning achievement being the imminent fruition of the new 70,000 square-foot, \$7 million engineering building now in final planning stages, funding arrangements and preparations for start of construction.

In curricula advancements, Dr. Woodring described the new Master's Degree level in Systems Engineering, embracing structural, electronic and electrical, HVAC, etc., branches. Starting next Fall, all engineering freshmen will be required to have and use microcomputers of their own. Dr. Woodring outlined several other innovative programs and methods at the ever-expanding College of Engineering at Drexel University.

### Novick Introduces Dr. Larson

**David A. Novick**, the Phila. Section's hard-working transportation expert and Chairman of the Section's Transportations and Urban Development Technical Group, introduced our distinguished speaker: **Dr. Thomas D. Larson**, Secretary of PennDOT.

### Infrastructure and "America in Ruins"

The focus of Dr. Larson's presentation was the new word that's in the news, that has the attention of Congress and is in the forefront of the civil engineering community's advocacies. It is the Nation's INFRASTRUCTURE — a new word for old necessities that are now in serious trouble: roads, bridges, water and sewage systems, public transport and many other public works. Decades of neglect have left

existing facilities in critical need of repair and maintenance, particularly in older urban areas.

Dr. Larson concedes that Pennsylvania has its share of these problems, and he vividly illustrated this with slides: decaying locks and dams on the Monongahela; decrepit trolley cars in Pittsburgh; branch line railroads in disrepair; deteriorating bridges . . . Although we are responsible for most of them, admits Dr. Larson, the deficiencies can be corrected and the Commonwealth has not lost control. He accepts the challenges of "America in Ruins," a recently published volume which vividly configures our country in various stages of dilapidation.

### History and Evolution of Improvements

It was natural that Dr. Larson's address stressed transportation modes: waterways, railroads, cars, trucks, buses, and airplanes. He graphed the tremendous growth trends in registrations of automobiles and trucks. The history of transportation improvement in Pennsylvania dates back to Governor Gifford Pinchot, who — in the 1920's — "got the farmers out of the mud" through instigation of a highway improvement and beautification program, forestry and conservation consciousness.

Dr. Larson's excellent slides portrayed the advances in all transportation vehicles, from their crude and humble beginnings to the sophisticated, innovative and exotic inventions of the present day.

### Government Role in Transportation

Dr. Larson reviewed the evolution of Government involvement in transportation. PennDOT was started in 1963, when its principal emphasis was proper drainage to keep roads in repair. The Federal Government did not play an appreciable role in transportation until about 1916. The Interstate Highway concept began in earnest with the complex interchange systems of important road intersections, and the effects of the interchanges on residential, commercial and industrial planning and development of communities.

### U. S. and Pa. Transportation 1970-1982

Secretary Larson decries the apparent loss of a public consensus — and the extreme difficulty of operating in harmony with the public because of this loss — during the 1970-1982 era. In this period, too, planners who were transportation advocates were replaced by adversarial proceedings activists. The notorious **Environmental Impact Statement** has had a profoundly limiting effect

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## JANUARY MEETING

(continued from page 4)

fect on almost all major transportation improvement projects.

Dr. Larson pointed out his priority concerns with Philadelphia projects, such as Interstate-95, the proposed Vine Street Expressway (where plans have been completed since 1973 and the improvement is still embroiled in controversy) and several others. He also reviewed major highways improvements and facilities construction in Pittsburgh.

### How to Preserve the Infrastructure

Our speaker advanced several key issues upon which, in his opinion, the preservation of the country's precious public works depends to an appreciable degree:

Improved management principles.

Pragmatic fiscal systems and capital investment programs and objectives.

High ethical standards, codes of conduct, and consultant selection guidelines.

Perceptions of the population (to "do good" and be perceived by the public as such in your efforts).

Politics, patronage and new directions for survival with care and deliberation.

Dr. Larson insists that in Pennsylvania we have the apparatus in place to arrest and reverse the cancer of "America in Ruins".

### Questions and Answers

Among the many interesting, provocative and relevant questions, comments and suggestions — to which Dr. Larson responded with his renowned expertise — were the following outstanding subjects:

1. The "I. M." program — (Inspection Maintenance). This is a complicated legal question which Dr. Larson inherited. It is a political problem of implementation and legislative wrangling.

2. The five-cent/gallon gasoline tax. The outlook is promising for Pennsylvania highway improvements, bridges, interstates, etc. Revenues of \$170 million are anticipated for this year; \$700 million over the life of the program.

3. Large percentage increases have been prescribed in capital and operating subsidies to public transit. There have been dramatic increases in revenues due to efficient management and good funding.

4. The "Blue Route". Discussed the community input, political ramifications



## Convention Update

The 1983 ASCE National Spring Convention

MAY 16 - 20, 1983

Franklin Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia

As we get closer to May 16th and the start of the 1983 ASCE National Convention, we have the opportunity to help to show the nation as well as our own local contemporaries some of the unique engineering and artistic achievements which we have been taking for granted, right here within our own Philadelphia area.

This Convention will afford us the opportunity to tour several of the major projects that most of us have only read about up until now. These projects include:

"THE CENTER CITY RAILWAY COMMUTER TUNNEL"

"THE AIRPORT HIGH SPEED LINE"

"I-95 EXTENSION TO THE AIRPORT"

"SOUTHWEST WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT"

"LIMERICK GENERATING STATION"

All of these projects have been newsworthy both locally and nationally for the last 5 to 10 years. Now you can tour all of them within just a few days.

In the coming months, THE NEWS and National ASCE publications (CIVIL ENGINEERING Magazine, The ASCE National Newsletter, periodic explanatory flyers, brochures and registration data and forms), will provide full details of the Technical Sessions and Seminars; Continuing Education Programs; spouse activities and hospitality accommodations; City tours and

and obstacles to completion through many years.

5. The rehabilitation complications of the Schuylkill Expressway.

At the conclusion of this excellent meeting, Section President Bernard M. McNamee and Mr. Novick presented Dr. Larson the Section's Certificate of Appreciation and a copy of the Phila. Section's 1976 National ASCE Bicentennial Celebration Convention publication: "The History of Civil Engineering and Construction in the Delaware Valley."

area road trips; special Breakfasts, Luncheons and Dinners; entertainment functions; Student Activities; and Post-Convention events and programs.

Months of planning by the Philadelphia Section Convention Committee, under the expert General Chairmanship of **Leo F. O'Connor** and his staff of dedicated assistants, are rapidly formulating the final design and blueprint of the spectacular and exciting Convention coming to Philadelphia. Leo and the Committee are particularly fortunate, too, in benefiting by the full participation, as Special Consultant, by **James W. McPhillips**, General Chairman of the memorable 1976 National ASCE Convention hosted by the Philadelphia Section. Jim McPhillips' contribution of his extraordinary talents will alleviate the burdens of arranging the myriad details involved in the planning and execution of this enormous and important function.

Plan to attend and encourage all of your friends and associates to attend. Remember May 16th is getting closer.

SO — MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SCHEDULE YOUR TIME NOW TO TAKE FULL PART IN THE 1983 ASCE NATIONAL SPRING CONVENTION, MAY 16 - 20, 1983, FRANKLIN PLAZA HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA — HOSTED BY THE PHILADELPHIA SECTION, ASCE.

If you want additional information call **Leo O'Connor** at 215 561-0460.

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### DECEMBER MEETING PANEL SPEAKER COMMENTS

THE NEWS has received a letter from **Reeder R. Fox, Esq.**, one of the panelists at the December 14, 1982 Phila. Section meeting on the subject: "Professional Engineering Liability." Mr. Fox points out as incorrect a statement in the January, 1983 issue (page 3) writeup of the round-table discussion, reviewing Mr. Fox's comments on "Purchase Orders." Because of an editing slip up, the full sentence should

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### IMPORTANT CONTACT DATA

In response to requests from Phila. Section members for information on membership mailings, contacts with Officers and Board of Directors, Technical Group chairmen, and other general business, THE NEWS will henceforth (starting with this issue) publish as part of the masthead List of Officers, etc. on page 2 of each issue the telephone numbers and mailing addresses of the Section President and Secretary. (The information for the Publications Chairman has been traditionally available at the bottom of the masthead list; and Technical Group chairman and Liaison Contact data are published in every issue where space is available.)

Section members are urged to file the following important contacts:

#### President —

**Dr. Bernard M. McNamee**  
Dept. of Civil Engineering  
Drexel University  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
(215) 895-2369

#### Secretary —

**Albert M. Tantala**  
Tantala Associates  
4903 Frankford Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19124  
(215) 289-4600

### PANEL SPEAKER COMMENTS

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have read: "... Necessary warranties and guarantees must be incorporated in the purchase orders — to protect the engineer's service in specifying or approving the quality of the materials or supplies . . . ."

The statement in the article was not intended to infer that purchase order forms — which are often used to retain engineers for professional services — are recommended as contract forms for the engagement of the services of professionals. As Mr. Fox comments in his letter: "... most purchase order forms contain express warranties and guarantees of goods being suitable for the intended purpose and free from defects. This creates a variety of legal problems for design professionals, the most serious of which is that most professional liability insurance policies for architects and engineers contain an express exclusion from coverage for liabil-

### TANTALA SUBMITS SECTION'S ANNUAL REPORT

With the able assistance of Treasurer **Charles Denny**, Section Officers and Committee Personnel, Secretary **Albert M. Tantala** once again has assembled a magnificent **Annual Report of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE, Fiscal Year October 1, 1981 to September 30, 1982.**

As required by the Society By-Laws, the Annual Report of Section Activities and Finances summarizes programs and operations. It includes data on the Reading Branch, Technical Groups, Committees, Publications, Associate Member Forum, Student Chapters, Women's Auxiliary and other subsidiary affiliations.

The Report conveys information helpful to the National Board of Direction, Committee on Local Sections and District Councils, Headquarters Staff and other Sections — in evaluating Philadelphia Section affairs. It is also a prime prerequisite for the payment by National of the annual allotment to the Section.

In addition to Finance and Membership data, the volume features comprehensive description of the Section's participation in Intersociety organizations such as: Engineering and Technical Societies Council of Delaware Valley (ETSCO); Engineers Week Committee; joint meetings with the Philadelphia Branch, Society of American Military Engineers (S.A.M.E.); the Philadelphia Urban Manpower Program (PUMP); Construction Career Day Committee; seminar co-sponsorship with the American Plywood Association; representation at the Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences; and many others.

The Philadelphia Section extends its highest praise and appreciation to Secretary Tantala and his skillful assistants for the excellent and outstanding publication.

ity arising out of express warranties or guarantees. For these and other reasons, I would strongly recommend that design professionals use the standard AIA and NSPE contract forms and avoid the use of purchase orders . . . ."

THE NEWS regrets the editorial blunder and thanks Mr. Fox for his clarification.

### ASCE DUES BILL AND TECHNICAL GROUP DETAILS

Section members will notice in the 1983 dues bill from National ASCE Headquarters, that the PHILADELPHIA (SECTION) DUES is itemized as \$12.00. This amount includes a \$1 assessment for membership in one Phila. Section Technical Group of your choice. If you choose to be a member of more than one Group, please add \$1.00 for each Group.

Also, because National's bill did not list the Technical Groups to which your \$1.00 payments were to be applied, you are requested to get in touch with the Chairmen of the Technical Groups of your preference, so that their membership lists can be classified.

The appropriate individuals to contact are the following:

#### Technical Group Liaison John E. Durrant

(Section Vice President)

Phila. Water Department  
Materials Testing Laboratory  
7th St. & Lehigh Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19133  
(215) 686-1776 Ext. 23-246

Associate Member Forum  
Margaret Yevics, President  
215 S. 22nd St.  
Phila., PA 19103  
(215) 732-4218

Construction Group  
Fredric L. Plotnick, Chairman  
806 Hillton Lane  
Elkins Park, PA 19117  
(215) 487-1443 or (215) 843-7310

Geotechnical Group  
Dr. Ziyad I. Husami, Chairman  
Stone & Webster Engineering Corp.  
3 Executive Campus, P.O. Box 5200  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034  
(609) 482-3889

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