

the news



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PHILADELPHIA SECTION
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

VOL. 58 - 3

OUR 73rd YEAR

December, 1985

... Greetings of the Season ...

The Editor and staff of THE NEWS, on behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE, extend to the Members and their families Heartiest Wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season, and a Healthy, Prosperous and Fulfilling New Year.

DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1985

Engineers' Club 1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia

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

SUBJECT:

PLANNING, DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING REPLACEMENT HOUSING FOR OSAGE AVENUE RESIDENTS.

SPEAKER:

HONORABLE JAMES WHITE, Managing Director of the City of Philadelphia.



James Stanley White was appointed Managing Director by Mayor W. Wilson Goode and was sworn in on July 1, 1985.

In addition to being a graduate of Morgan State College, Managing Director White has an MS Degree from the School of Public & International Affairs, the George Washington University, and is also a graduate of the National War College and the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College. Prior to his present appointment, Managing Director White served as Com-

JANUARY DINNER MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1986

SUBJECT:

AN UPDATE ON THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STUDY.

SPEAKER:

HON. HARRY M. PERKS, Commissioner of Streets, City of Philadelphia.
(continued on page 2)

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

ASCE Member—\$10.00 Non-Member—\$11.00 Students—\$4.00
STUDENTS — Note that your Dinner Charge is LESS than one-half price. Plan to attend for Dinner or Meeting after Dinner.

TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Water and Environmental Engineering

December Meeting

Date: *Tuesday, December 17, 1985*

Engineers' Club

Dinner: 5:30 P.M.

Meeting: 6:30 P.M.

Subject: *Evaluation and Application of Water Conservation Measures in Water Conservation Planning*

Speakers: *Dr. Arun K. Deb* and *Mr. William G. Richards* of Roy F. Weston, Inc.

Program Host: *Mr. John Tunnell*, Chairman, W & EE Group.

For reservations call John Tunnell at (215) 597-4714 by December 13, 1985.

TECHNICAL GROUPS ACTIVE

Section Vice-President *Al Tantala* convened a meeting of the Chairpersons of the Section's Technical Groups on Monday, October 22, 1985 at the Engineers' Club.

The agenda was mainly a discussion of many items of importance to the Technical Groups, including purpose, meetings, procedures, mailing lists, budgets, costs, attendance, newsreleases, dinner meetings, use of the Engineers' Club, inter alia.

Section members wishing to have their names on the mailing list of any Technical Group, should contact the Group Chairperson. (see list in THE NEWS)

The Technical Groups, collectively, have a dire need for a slide projector. Any Section member who can help or has any suggestions, should contact VP Tantala, at (215) 289-4600.

IMPORTANT!! 1985-1986 Meeting Notices

THE NEWS is now being mailed at Non-Profit Organization Bulk 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 1985-1986 Section Meeting Program Schedule and mark your calendar for all meetings and social functions. Listed below is a summary of remaining meeting dates.

All Dinner Meetings —

Cocktails: 5:30 p.m. — Dinner: 6:30 p.m. — Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 11, 1986 — Section Dinner Meeting, Engineers' Club

Topic: *The Hazards of Litigating Geotechnical Problems — and their Solutions*

Speaker: *Dr. George Sower*, Professor of Civil Engineering, Georgia Inst. of Technology, Atlanta, Ga.

Temple Univ. and Univ. of Pa. Night

Tuesday, March 11, 1986 — Section Dinner Meeting, Engineers' Club

Topic: *The Rebirth of Commercialized City Centers — The Festival Malls*

Speaker: *Robert M. Cameron*, Group Vice President, The Rouse Development Company, Columbia, Md.

Widener Univ. and Spring Garden Night

Tuesday, April 8, 1986 —

Joint Dinner Meeting with Philadelphia Post, Society of Military Engineers

Officers Club, U. S. Naval Base Philadelphia

Topic: *Meeting the Engineering Challenges of a Modern Navy*

Speaker: *Commodore Richard F. Butts, USN*, Commander U. S. Naval Base Philadelphia

Saturday Evening, May 3, 1986

Annual Spring Social

The Bourse Building, 5th and Market Sts., Phila., PA 19106

DECEMBER MEETING

(continued from page 1)

missioner of the Department of Licenses & Inspections since January 1984; and also spent four years as a Senior Manager in the City's Office of Housing and Community Development.

A former Army Colonel, Managing Director White received numerous awards and decorations during his 23 years of military service.

Since moving to Philadelphia in 1977, Director White has been active on many professional, civic and community activities. Currently he is on the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation, The Utility Emergency Services Fund, The Philadelphia Urban Coalition, The Philadelphia Computer Corporation, Fund for Philadelphia, Police Athletic League of Philadelphia, Youth Services Coordinating Commission and the Philadelphia Port Corporation. He also serves on the Philadelphia Planning Commission, The Traffic Court Committee, The Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission, The Hero Scholarship Fund Committee, The Board of Pensions and Retirement and the Philadelphia Administrative Board.

JANUARY MEETING

(continued from Page 1)

Mr. Perks will update ASCE members on what his Department is doing to solve the crisis that presently exists in solid waste disposal. Commissioner Perks was appointed Streets Commissioner by Mayor W. Wilson Goode in February, 1985. Except for a three year appointment to the School District, on leave of absence from Day & Zimmermann, Mr. Perks spent virtually his entire career with the D & Z firm, a large engineering and construction company in Philadelphia. He was made D & Z President in 1976, and retired in January, 1984. Mr. Perks' presentation will provide our members with the latest information on a comprehensive study that is now being advanced for the City by a team of consultants which is working to solve the solid waste crisis for the City.

SPECIAL FEATURE:

DREXEL UNIVERSITY NIGHT (Day and Evening College)

IMPORTANT PARKING PRIVILEGE NOTICE

Philadelphia Section, ASCE members are entitled to special parking rates after 5:00 P.M. for meetings at the Engineers' Club, through an arrangement between the Club and "E-Z Parking Garage", located on the East side of Broad Street, North of Pine Street. Have your parking ticket validated at the front desk of the Engineers' Club and your parking fee will be the special reduced price of \$2.50.

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR
JANUARY, 1986 ISSUE
DECEMBER 10, 1985**

Editorial

THE END OF AN ERA

With this issue, the Phila. Section ASCE's THE NEWS regretfully terminates the association with *Wm. B. Graf & Sons*, Printers and Publishers, Philadelphia, with whom it has maintained a most amicable business relationship for more than 23 years. In a recent letter, Graf has notified me that "... after three generations of operations and 78 years in the printing industry, we will close our doors as of December 31, 1985. . ."

This eventuality has deeply affected your Editor, because through the years there has grown a close personal friendship between Graf's proprietor, *William A. Brenner*, his family, and employees at the shop. Since he lives relatively close to Mr. Brenner's home, your Editor has customarily dropped off copy and picked up proofs — frequently by prearrangement at wee hours of the morning — in the perpetual effort to meet printing and mailing deadlines, which are often frustrated by mailing delays of the Postal Service. He has even assembled paste-up copies of THE NEWS issues at Mr. Brenner's house in order to expedite final printing.

On behalf of the Staff of THE NEWS and other publications, the Officers and Membership of the Philadelphia Section, I extend sincere thanks and appreciation to Graf & Sons for its devoted service and assistance through these many years. We wish Mr. Brenner, his family and associates at the shop well in whatever new endeavor that they may pursue — as we bid them a fond, and sad, *adieu*.

Sidney Robin

Chairman of Publications

Philadelphia Section, ASCE

CONSTRUCTION CAREER DAY

The 25th Annual Construction Career Day Conference for Junior and Senior High School Students, Teachers and Counselors, was held on Saturday, November 16, 1985 at the Philadelphia Community College. The event was cosponsored by the Philadelphia Section, ASCE, PSPE, several Architectural, General Building Contractors, Subcontracting Trades and Union Associations, in cooperation with the Philadelphia Community College.

Although student attendance at the Conference was less than the sponsors had anticipated, the outstanding program was a productive and educational experience for all who took part. An excellent slide presentation entitled: "*A Career in the Building Profession*",

was commented by Dr. *Ralph Pandolfi* of the Lowell School, and *Charles McBride*, an official for many years of the General Building Contractors Association (GBCA) — one of the sponsors — and a long-time prime mover of the Career Day Conference, moderated a Panel Discussion with Prominent Engineers, Architects and Contractors.

An entertaining and informative film also illustrated the many career opportunities available in Construction, Engineering and Architectural pursuits. In addition to the speakers, many Consulting Engineering firms, Architects, Building Construction Companies and Specialty Trades, Materials Manufacturers and Union Organizations displayed fine exhibits and responded to students' inquiries.

As Philadelphia Section, ASCE's hard-working Career Day Committee representative, *Michael J. Gabor*, pointed out, "... The Construction Industry is the largest single industry in the United States, with annual dollar volume of more than \$100 billion. The industry's needs will continue, because it is estimated that by the year 2000 Americans will build the equivalent of everything that has been built to date in this country. These needs will manifest themselves in trained men and women to accomplish this task. There are many jobs requiring different and special kinds of preparation. A wide range of career opportunities exists for architects, civil, mechanical and electrical engineers; contractors, technicians, accountants, project managers, general superintendents, estimators, expeditors, draftsmen, foremen and journeymen..."

It is to be hoped that this noteworthy function of Construction Career Day will continue to grow in future years, and that it will receive the full cooperation, not only of the building and affiliated industries and professions, but also of the Philadelphia School System in engendering interest and participation by its Junior and Senior High School students.

MICCILO ACTIVATES YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM

Anthony M. Micciolo, the dynamic newly installed President of the Section's *Younger Member Forum* (formerly the Associate Member Forum), has initiated an admirable plan to move the Forum into action and directions which have been notably lacking far too long. He has composed and mailed out a Survey and cover letter to some 646 Younger Members (32 years of age or

(continued on page 4)

GEOTECHNICAL GROUP Program — 1985-1986

For our 1985-1986 program, we have selected the topic of "*Geotechnical Consideration In Construction Over Lands Occupied By Sanitary Landfills*" as the subject of our lecture series.

Several sanitary landfills exist on valuable real estate property. In recent years, some developers have proposed to develop industrial and commercial buildings over properties occupied by sanitary landfills. Several problems associated with such development is geotechnical in nature and can be mitigated using special geotechnical techniques. Our lecture series will deal with the problems and how they can be solved. We trust that you will find this subject quite interesting and that you will attend all our monthly meetings.

Tentatively, we propose the following program:

November 19, 1985

"*Risk Assessment*" — *Dr. John H. Crow*, Ph.D., of J. H. Crow Company & Rutgers University.

January 21, 1986

(Joint dinner meeting with the Water & Environmental Grp.)

"*Waste Site Remediation & Corrective Action*" — *Robert Mutch*, P.E., V.P. of Aware (Environmental Consultants).

February 18, 1986

"*Synthetic Liners in Sanitary Landfills*" — *Dr. Robert Koerner*, Ph.D., P.E. Drexel University.

March 18, 1986

"*Methane Gas Protection Systems*" — *Richard E. Mabry*, P.E., Consulting Engineer.

April 15, 1986

"*Consolidation Settlement of Sanitary Landfills*".

May 20, 1986

"*Stabilization of Fill & Soil Masses Using Lime and Flyash*".

As in the past, lectures will be held at the Engineers' Club in Philadelphia. (See THE NEWS future issues for more details of meetings.)

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Cheese and Wine will be served (except January)

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Lecture

We look forward to seeing you. Please feel free to pass this memo to others who may be interested.

For more information, please contact:

Mustafa A. Gouda, Chairman, Geotechnical Group

Lippincott Engineering Associates, Inc. 501 Burlington Ave.

Delanco, NJ 08075

(609) 461-1239

THE ROLLER'S HOST THE FALL SOCIAL

The 1985 Philadelphia Section, ASCE Annual Fall Social, sponsored and arranged by the Women's Auxiliary on November 3, 1985, incorporated a very pleasant innovation. Hosted by *Charles* and *Claire Roller*, it was held at "The Flying Fish Seafood Restaurant", an attractively appointed new bar-dining room recently purchased and operating under the proprietorship of the Rollers' son, *Paul Roller*, at 8142 Germantown Avenue, Chestnut Hill, Pa. The restaurant is Paul's second in the area. His first, recognized as one of Chestnut Hill's finest, is "Roller's Restaurant" at 8705 Germantown Avenue. The beautiful Fall Sunday afternoon and full color spectra of the leaves on the trees that line picturesque Germantown Avenue directly outside the second-floor clubroom of "The Flying Fish" provided ideal atmosphere for the pleasure of the Section members, spouses and guests who attended the splendid affair.

Claire and Charlie were capably assisted by sons *Paul* and *Richard*, (*Richard* is the Manager of "The Flying Fish"), *Richard's* wife *Ann Roller*, and their six-year old daughter *Kathleen* — all of whom busily catered to the needs of the guests. Kudos are also in order for *Mary Ellen (Mrs. Warren E.) Van De Vort*, the Auxiliary's Hospitality Committee Chairperson, for her all-around help in the infinite detail of arrangement, display and distribution of the savory hors d'oeuvres and choice delicacies which the Auxiliary members brought to the party and which added so much to the fulfillment of the event.

Unfortunately, *Charlie Roller* missed the first half of the party, so deeply engrossed was he in carving the delightful turkey *Claire* cooked for the occasion! Several Section members finally succeeded in tearing him away from his dedicated task, and forced him to join in the fun. Cocktails were served at the bar, by several highly talented in-house bartenders, including *Victor Marcus*, *Pete Johnson* and *Ken Zitomer*. Host *Charlie*, always a stickler for detail in every facet of his professional and private life, even brought in a large color TV set for the benefit of the loyal Philadelphia Eagles fans at the party, who cheered as they watched their heroes fight gallantly — but in vain — against the juggernaut onslaught of the San Francisco 49ers which advanced inexorably to victory against our hapless Birds.

The 1985 Fall Social — thanks to the excellent efforts of hosts *Claire* and *Charles Roller*, their sons *Paul* and

Richard — who generously contributed their services and the use of the restaurant — their assistants at the party, and the Auxiliary members who brought food and drink — maintained the great tradition which is characteristic of the Philadelphia Section's social programs. Although modified this year, the event was a continuation of the "at home" policy of the Fall Socials, begun in 1976 and which has proved to be extraordinarily successful.

Proceeds of the function are deposited into the Auxiliary's *Annette Estrada Memorial Awards Fund*, which was established — in memory of one of the Auxiliary's Charter members — to financially assist deserving Civil Engineering students of area colleges. Section members contributed modest fees to cover costs of the affair and to enhance the Memorial Fund.

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM

(continued from page 3)

younger), in a preliminary investigation to determine subjects of interest to be discussed at an ASCE Northeast Region Younger Member Council Conference next Spring (location and particulars will be published in later issues of THE NEWS).

A gratifying response to the questionnaire has provided *Tony* with a good base on the interests of his respondents and the degree of involvement they would pursue.

The National ASCE Northeast Region Council Younger Member Forum was recently established to bring together Younger Members of ASCE to discuss topics of mutual interest, and to serve as a training ground for future Local Section leaders. National ASCE makes available a wide range of opportunities for individuals to explore, and to participate in technical, professional and social activities of interest.

Mr. Micciolo is especially enthusiastic about developing a progressive Younger Member roster for the Philadelphia Section, in order that it may contribute impressively to the Northeast Region Younger Member Forum Council Meeting in the Spring of 1986; and to continue thereafter as available and proud affiliate of the Section.

If you are 32 years of age or younger and desire full information on the Survey and other details about becoming involved in the Younger Member Forum, please contact *Anthony Micciolo*, c/o Philadelphia Water Department, SSW-PCP Plant Expansion, 8200 Enterprise Ave., Phila., PA 19153 — phones: work, (215) 365-5166; home, (215) 744-8767.

DISTRICT 4 COUNCIL MEETING

The District 4 Council Meeting was held on *Friday, October 4th* and *Saturday, October 5th, 1985* at the Sheraton-Harrisburg Inn. This meeting of all Pennsylvania Sections and Branches was chaired by *Dr. David A. VanHorn*, the District 4 Director.

The meeting agenda included a review of the minutes of the previous meeting, the Treasurer's report, reports from the Sections and Branches, a review of procedures for nomination and election of ASCE President-Elect and District 4 Director, a report on the PUMP program, a review of the ASCE Board of Direction Agenda (October 19-20 in Detroit, MI), inter alia. Reports were also presented by the Chairman of the District Committee on Legislative Affairs, by the ASCE Representative (Philadelphia's *James C. McCann*) on the Pennsylvania Sewage Advisory Committee, and by *E. Vincent Viscomi* concerning the Zone I Management Conference (January 29-31, 1986, Wilmington, DE).

Section President *Ira N. Pierce* made a detailed oral and written report to the Council. Other Section members present were *John Durrant*, *Ed Lutz*, and *Al Tantala*. The Reading Branch was represented by *Dan Biss* and *Ayub Iqbal*.

After a long discussion, the Council resolved that:

(1) ASCE supplement its public information efforts to include those media which will reach the greatest segment of the high school age population,

(2) ASCE and members of the profession expand their public information and recruitment activities to the public, especially to high school students and guidance counselors, about the increasing opportunities for Civil Engineers to be employed in people-serving positions and in high-technology activities, and seek Congressional and/or Executive declaration that rebuilding of the nation's infrastructure is a top national priority, and

(3) the Civil Engineering profession take steps to reassert the role of Civil Engineers as the prime profession in our traditional work domain through aggressive marketing to prospective students and the public the image of Civil Engineering as a discipline using advance technologies.

The District is considering an Annual Convention, possibly to include a Paper Conference, exhibits, and continuing education courses. *John Durrant* and

(continued on page 6)

NOVEMBER MEETING

Engineers' Club November 12, 1985

by Greg Neiderer, Staff Writer

So You Want To Be A Consulting Engineer?

A great turnout of more than 150 Philadelphia Section members, guests and an entourage from Villanova University enjoyed the excellent second regular 1985-1986 season monthly meeting of the Section. Roy F. Weston, Chairman of Weston Environmental Designers-Consultants, was the principal speaker and his subject was: "The Business Side of Engineering." Section President Ira N. Pierce presided with his usual poise and aplomb.

Villanova University Night

The ASCE Student Chapter, Alumni and Faculty of the Civil Engineering Department of Villanova University were the academic center of attention at the meeting, which continued the Section's long-heralded policy of honoring the ASCE Student Chapters and Civil Engineering Departments of area colleges and universities. More than 35 proud sons and daughters of Villanova C. E. community, Faculty members and alumni attended the meeting.

Student Chapter President Matthew Marquardt acted as Master of Ceremonies for the Villanova Presentation. He introduced the distinguished Villanova Faculty Members, who included: Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. Robert D. Lynch, a Civil Engineer and long-time dedicated member of the Philadelphia Section; Chairman of the Civil Engineering Department, Dr. Edward M. Wallo and Student Chapter Faculty Advisor, Dr. Paul C. Hoffman, both of whom also have been Active Members of the Section for many years.

President Marquardt asked his fellow officers of the Student Chapter to rise in acknowledgement of recognition. They were: Vice President Pamela Helminski, Treasurer Mike Schiavone, and Secretary Diane Bates (who unfortunately was unable to attend the meeting) and his fellow members of the Student Chapter and alumni in the audience. He thanked the Philadelphia Section for its recognition and honor; and presented a brief but comprehensive summary of the 55-member Chapter's aggressive activities of the past year. Some of the highlights included:

* The Annual Villanova Career Day Conference, which featured exhibits and lectures by Structural Designers, Construction Companies and General Contractors, and Consulting Engineering-Architectural firms.

* In October, Section Past President John E. Durrant spoke to the Group on the advantages for students and graduates to be involved in ASCE's broad spectrum of affairs.

* Several other noted speakers on diverse technical and economic subjects.

* Attendance and participation in the recent September Celebration of the Philadelphia Center City Rail Commuter Connection Ceremony and Reception honoring the great project as National ASCE's 1985 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement.

* The proud athletic accomplishments the Villanova Student Chapter scored in its winning many prizes at the Concrete Canoe Races last Spring on the Schuylkill River (in spite of the Faculty's bad fifth-place showing!).

* Noteworthy miscellaneous academic and athletic activities and social functions.

Mr. Marquardt thanked Dr. Lynch, Dr. Wallo and the Faculty Staff for their great help during his tenure as President, and for their suggestions in the concrete canoe construction. In conclusion, he presented decorative drinking "mugs" to Section President Pierce and Mr. Weston, as mementoes honoring the Villanova Wildcats' stunning victory in the National Collegiate Basketball Championship playoffs.

Greetings from Dr. Wallo

Villanova Civil Engineering Department Chairman Dr. Edward M. Wallo thanked the Section for its courtesies and warmly greeted his good friends at the meeting. He recited an up-date of progress and advancements in the ambitious laboratory renovation program and enlargement of facilities and equipment in the Department. Personal computers have been introduced in all curricula programs and faculty offices. Dr. Wallo is pleased with the high level scholastic caliber of the students pursuing Civil Engineering careers at the University. He invited Section members to come to Villanova "... to look us over ..."

Mr. Weston — Five Questions for the Aspiring Consulting Engineer

Roy Weston has over 27 years in the Consulting Engineering business and presently commands an engineering firm of almost 1000 employees. He gave the Philadelphia Section a candid speech discussing the ups and downs of consulting engineering.

After finding a market for consulting services, Mr. Weston suggested that anyone who seriously considers becoming a Consultant should ask himself

five questions: First, why do you want to be a Consulting Engineer? Second, do people seek your help? Third, how well you know yourself and your partners? Fourth, do you have the necessary skills? And finally, do you have enough money to support yourself until your firm can support you?

Why do you want to be a Consultant? Is your reason trivial or basic? Do you want to be your own boss, earn more money, satisfy your ego, support a cause, help the profession or provide for your family? If you expect to be your own boss, you will find that you now have many bosses instead of one. And each is demanding that his work be completed first. Yet, in another sense, you are the boss since "the buck stops here". You are responsible for every decision that you make. You alone will reap the benefits and headaches of your work. You will probably earn more money per year, but make less money per hour. You will also find that you need to subordinate your ego to those of your clients. If you desire to be a Consultant for a cause, a profession, or family you are much more likely to enjoy yourself.

Do people seek your help? Are you quick to see the problem, rank the priorities, and can you organize to meet those priorities? All these qualities are necessary to succeed. Mr. Weston told us not to be surprised if those who eagerly sought your advice when it was free are not as interested in your expertise now that it is for sale.

How well do you know yourself? You must be dedicated, have a high energy level, be able to work long hours, and work well under stress. Can you play the game according to the rules? The opportunities to cheat are many, but once your reputation is ruined, you will not get a second chance. If you have partners you must critically look at each partner using these same criteria. And, because you will work long and close with your partners, you must be compatible and have the same goals.

Do you have the essential skills of technological expertise, sound management techniques and entrepreneurial ability? You need to be highly skilled in at least two of these areas to make it. If you would not be willing to take a second mortgage out on your house, you probably should not enter the Consulting Engineering business, because you might have to do just that.

Do you have enough money to support yourself until your firm can support you? When an established firm

(continued on page 6)

NOVEMBER MEETING

(continued from page 5)

opens a new office it may easily take \$250,000 to support that office before it becomes self-sufficient. For a new firm with no overhead, it would take a minimum of four months salary for all employees, plus all required hardware, such as computers.

Providing Professional Services in a Competitive Environment

Roy Weston posed the question: "Why will someone hire a consultant?" The reason is that the client needs your experience. He needs you to do something he cannot do; or he needs you to do something cheaper or faster than he could do it himself. Quite often the schedule is very important. In addition to your technical skill, you need to know when to close the sale. You can oversell the job and lose it. Your reputation is highly important. Your client demands quality service. Quality service is not just quality work. Quality service means on schedule, on budget, and quality work. Mr. Weston suggested that you have two goals: first, the unachievable goal of perfection; and second, the achievable goal of being better than your competition.

Questions Raised

After his formal presentation, Mr. Weston answered many questions posed by the audience. The first question asked for Mr. Weston's opinion on competitive bidding for engineering work. He replied that all his proposals are priced, since economics has to be a consideration. But if the client will not spend the amount, the scope of work should be changed, not the price to the point that it would seriously affect project quality. His views on liability insurance were asked. Mr. Weston started out by saying that there is no sympathy in Congress for reducing liability. Part of the problem is confusion of the issue by including the distinct issues of minorities quotas and the Brooks Bill in the same argument. Mr. Weston's concern is the present trend within the legal system to find the party with the deepest pockets, not the party who is actually responsible. He feels that errors and omissions insurance would be much cheaper if lawsuits were only brought for legitimate errors and omissions, not for just being involved and having a large insurance coverage. On the question of whether he prefers to work with the public or the private sector, Mr. Weston replied that he preferred a balance of 50% public and 50% private. When times are tough for your private clients, times

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY**December Meeting—Christmas Party**

The next monthly Luncheon-Meeting of the Phila. Section Women's Auxiliary will be held at the Engineers' Club on *Wednesday, December 18, 1985, 12:00 noon*. It is the Annual Christmas Party. As is customary, business discussion will be held to an absolute minimum. Pollyannas will be exchanged and the Holiday spirit will prevail. All Auxiliary members and their guests are cordially invited to attend.

There will be no Women's Auxiliary Meetings in January or February, 1986. The next regular Luncheon-Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 19, 1986. The Auxiliary's own Mary Shoemaker, Past President, will make a slide presentation on "Travels in Jordan", commenting on her and husband Ed's trip to this picturesque Middle East Country.

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

The announcement of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year is the highlight of National Public Works Week (May 18 - 24, 1986). This award program serves to recognize outstanding public works professionals and, in doing so, inspire excellence and dedication in public service.

Each year ten individuals are selected by a distinguished panel of judges representing educators, the media, APWA, and some of the ten organizations co-sponsoring National Public Works Week.

Any non-elected full-time employee of a federal, state, provincial, county, or municipal government whose responsibilities are public works-related is eligible.

Nominations for this prestigious award may be made by any individual or group, and neither the nominee nor the nominator need be APWA members.

Each recipient receives a plaque and Top Ten jewelry at appropriate ceremonies in the local community during National Public Works Week.

For full information and Nomination Forms contact: Bernadette Ryan — (312) 667-2200, ext. 586.

will be tough on you if that is your sole income source. While public clients seem to be either unsophisticated or extremely sophisticated—each level with its own characteristic problems—they are much more reliable with payments during economic downswings.

After the question and answer session President Pierce extended the Section's deep appreciation to Mr. Weston for his excellent, enlightening talk.

ACI ANNOUNCES STUDENT COMPETITION

The Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Concrete Institute will sponsor a Student Competition to design, construct and test a concrete beam. The testing is slated for *March 15, 1986* at Temple University. Cash prizes will be awarded and participants will be recognized at the ACI's annual Student Night to be held the week of *March 24, 1986*.

For information, contact *Mike Boyle, c/o Valley Forge Laboratories, Inc., Six Berkley Road, Devon, PA 19333, phone: (215) 688-8517; or Tom Normik, c/o Geddes, Brecher, Qualls, Cunningham, 2401 Locust St., Phila., PA 19103, phone: (215) 561-2401.*

It's not too early to start work on this interesting project. Get your applications in as soon as possible, students!

DISTRICT 4 COUNCIL MEETING

(continued from page 4)

the Philadelphia Section are to conduct a feasibility survey.

The District election results include the incumbent *David A. VanHorn* to be Chairman, *James Rowland, III*, Vice-Chairman, and incumbent *David L. Wright*, Secretary-Treasurer. The next scheduled District meeting is *March 14, 1986*.

The Philadelphia Section thanks Director VanHorn for his effective leadership, and Section President Pierce for being the host of this District meeting and for his other fine efforts.

ASCE JOB EXCHANGE

Members in search of employment, and members who have jobs available at their offices are invited to communicate by mail to Editor, Sid Robin, 64 Nancy Drive, Richboro, PA 18954. B.S.C.E. Graduate. The Catholic University of America, Wash., D.C., seeks professional career in construction.

Varied experience in real estate investments, repair, maintenance and replacements; negotiating estimates, awarding construction contracts, and on-the-job supervision; training new unskilled workers, etc. References available on request.

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