

the news



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PHILADELPHIA SECTION

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

VOL. 59 - 7

OUR 74th YEAR

April, 1987

APRIL JOINT DINNER MEETING

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1987

OFFICER'S CLUB, U.S. NAVAL BASE, PHILADELPHIA

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

SUBJECT:

MODEL CODE CONTRIBUTION TO BUILDING SAFETY

SPEAKER:

CHARLES O. EVERLY, P.E., President, Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) International.

SPECIAL EVENT:

The Honorable W. Wilson Goode, Mayor of Philadelphia, will present the Proclamation designating **Philadelphia Building Safety Week, April 5-11, 1987.**

For building and related construction codes to be effective, understanding and cooperation must exist between code officials and the people they serve — building occupants and all sectors of the construction industry. The general public often does not recognize the importance of construction safety codes and their effective enforcement until a tragedy may result from unsafe construction. The contribution made to the health, safety and welfare of our built environment by dedicated professional code officials may not be fully realized by the public at large.

Annual observation of Building Safety Week began in 1980 to promote public awareness of the importance of construction safety codes and their effective administration by units of government. National Building Safety Week is also intended to foster recognition of the role professional code officials play in assuring the safe construction of buildings of all types and sizes.

In 1987 National Building Safety Week is being endorsed by such prestigious organizations as the Council of American Building Officials (CABO), the national Conference of States on Building Codes and Standards, and Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) International. The City of Philadelphia is member of BOCA International, which was founded in 1915 - The nation's original professional association of construction code officials.

Engineers from the City Department of Licenses and inspections will join with the Philadelphia Section, ASCE and the Philadelphia Post, SAME at their Annual Joint Meeting.

Charles O. Everly, P.E. is a 1952 graduate of Architectural Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. After two-year employment in the firm of Willgoos and Chase, Architects, he began a 29-year period of service for the City of Alexandria, VA, serving successively as Chief Engineer, Department of Building and Mechanical Inspections; Development Coordinator, (continued on page 2)

TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Construction Group

April Meeting

Date: **Thursday, April 23, 1987**

Engineers' Club
Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Subject: **East Market Street Restoration Project**

Speaker: **Elmore J. Boles, Jr., P.E.**, President,
Boles Smyth Associates, Inc.,
Consulting Engineering, Philadelphia

Program Host: **Fredic L. Plotnick, Esq., P.E.**,
Chairman, Construction Group

Mr. Boles will discuss the Market Street Renovation from 5th Street to City Hall. In the forefront of this ambitious program is the involvement and participation of the community and area merchants. It is the first renewal and rebuilding project of its kind in which will be established a maintenance fund (The East Market Street Merchants Association Fund) for upkeep of all improvements behind the curb line - including sidewalks, pedestrian lighting, planting, benches and display areas, etc.

Transportation and Urban Development Group

April Meeting

Date: **Thursday, April 23, 1987**

Engineers' Club
Cocktails - 5:00 P.M. Dinner - 6:00 P.M.
Meeting - 7:00 P.M.

SUBJECT: **Frankford Elevated Reconstruction Program - Construction Begins**

SPEAKERS: **Mr. Douglas Fritz**,
Construction Manager,
Philadelphia Transit Consultants
Mr. Dan Carrier,
Engineering Support Manager
Philadelphia Transit Consultants

The presentation will provide an overview of the Project, with information on the past, present and future activities of the "EL" Reconstruction Project. Mr. Carrier will address issues related to design, and construction-phase design support. Mr. Fritz will discuss the proposed construction management program.

For reservations please contact **William T. Thomsen**, Chairman, T & UD Group, at Urban Engineers, Inc., (215) 922-8080.

(continued on page 2)

For reservations for April Joint Meeting please call Edwin Kucerik, U.S. Army Engineer District, Custom House, 2nd & Chestnut Sts., PA 19106 Phone (215) 597-0456/0457

Dinner Meal Charges: ASCE Member—\$12.00 Students—\$6.00
Students: Note that your Dinner Charge is half price. Plan to attend for Dinner or Meeting after Dinner.

APRIL MEETING
(continued from page 1)

Office of the City Manager; and Director, Department of Building and Mechanical Inspections. From 1984 to the present, he has been Director, Department of Building and Zoning, Sarasota, FLA. he is a Registered Professional Engineer in Virginia and is a CABO Examination Certified Building Official.

Mr. Everly, current President of BOCA, also serves on numerous BOCA Committees,

TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES
(continued from page 1)

**Water & Environment Engineering Group
April Dinner Meeting**

Date: **Tuesday, April 21, 1987**
CAVANAUGH'S RESTAURANT
32nd & Market Streets, Philadelphia
Cocktails - 5:30 P.M.
Dinner - 6:30 P.M., followed by lecture

**SUBJECT: Drought Planning & Management
in the Delaware River Basin**

SPEAKER: Robert L. Goodell,
Chief Engineer,
Delaware River Basin Commission

Mr. Goodell has been Chief Engineer of the Delaware River Basin Commission since 1982. He joined the Commission staff in 1963 and served as Head, Operations Branch from 1965 to 1982. Prior to joining the Commission, Mr. Goodell was with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It was during that time (1956-1963) that he participated in the studies leading to the Report on the Comprehensive Survey of the Water Resources of the Delaware River Basin.

A native of Philadelphia, Mr. Goodell earned his degrees from Penn State University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, and a member of the ASCE. **FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL H.Y. Rajagopal ("Raj") at (215) 422-3032**

or
John Tunnell at (215) 597-4714

**ASCE ZONE I MANAGEMENT
CONFERENCE**

Vice President **Susan K. Lior** represented the Philadelphia Section at the ASCE Annual Zone I Management Conference, held this year in Hartford, CN January 28-30, 1987. The objective of the Conference is to acquaint new officers of Sections and Branches with their colleagues; and the National ASCE staff, President and President Elect. In Sue's words, "... it is an informative marathon Conference on everything you ever wanted to know about ASCE, and more. ASCE is a grass roots organization and relies upon meetings such as this to determine what the Local Sections and Branches are accomplishing, and to interchange views on topics of prime concern to Civil Engineers..."

Some of the principal issues discussed were:

Manual of Standard Practices - ASCE is in the process of preparing a Standard Manual

including: Industrialized Dwelling Code; Covered Malls; Wind Loads; Code Correlation and Format; Basic Code Changes, etc. He serves as BOCA Representative on National Code Councils and Technical Committees, including Chairmanship of CABO/NCS-BCS (National Conference of States on Building Codes and Standards) on Solar Energy Model Documents for Code Officials, and many others.

of Practice for the Civil Engineering profession. The first draft already has been published for review. Apparently, it was very controversial. The second draft will be published shortly.

The Manual attempts to define:

- Owners' reasonable expectations
- Engineers' reasonable responsibilities
- Contractors' reasonable obligations

(As a post note, the Philadelphia Section Board of Directors, at a recent meeting, voted to create a Committee to review the second draft. Interested individuals should get in touch with Section President **Albert M. Tantala** for more information.

STRATEGIC PLAN - ASCE President-Elect **Albert A. Grant** presented the ASCE's recently published Strategic Plan: "From Vision to Action." Mr. Grant explained current developments and proposed actions.

IDEAS - Each Section and Branch gave a short review of what it was doing. From these talks accrued many ideas for attracting new members, closer working partnerships with ASCE Student Chapters, and increasing meetings attendance. The Philadelphia Section intends to implement many of these ideas, particularly in its Technical Groups and Younger Member Forum.

MEMBERSHIP LISTS - National ASCE will be sending to each Section a dBase III program and file of its Membership. These files can be used to generate mailing lists and for analysis of the Membership characteristics.

At the caucus preceding the Management Conference, **Gerald E. Speidel** was elected ASCE Vice President, Zone I for the term October 1, 1987 to September 30, 1989. Mr. Speidel, a Drexel University graduate, resides in New Jersey and he is a Past President of the New Jersey Section, ASCE and the South Jersey Branch.

It was at this Conference that ASCE National Headquarters cited the Philadelphia Section newsletter, THE NEWS, the Outstanding Zone I newsletter. The Certificate of Award was signed by President Dan Barge and President-Elect Al Grant. (See article in the March, 1987 issue of THE NEWS).

"... I enjoyed attending this Conference very much," reported Vice President Lior to the Section's Board, "and I found it extremely informative. Not only that, but I left convinced that the Philadelphia Section is outstanding; and that our level of participation in Local and National Civil Engineering professional and civic activities far exceeds that of most other Sections..."

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

April Meeting

The regular Luncheon-Meeting of the Auxiliary will take place at the Engineers' Club on **Wednesday, April 15, 1987, 12:00 noon.** Featured will be a slide presentation entitled: "**A Visit with Norman Rockwell,**" showing colorful paintings, and magazine covers of the Saturday Evening Post magazine, which were created by the famous American artist.

Auxiliary members are urged to recruit Philadelphia Section member spouses to join the splendid organization and to take part in its varied and interesting activities. For more information and applications for membership, please contact Membership Chairman **Marie (Mrs. Kenneth J.) Jitomer** at (215) 548-5324.

**PHILADELPHIA SECTION
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
CIVIL ENGINEERS**

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR
MAY 1987 ISSUE
APRIL 10, 1987**

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AWARDED

A Special Event of the March 10, 1987 Section Meeting was the awarding of Certificates of Life Memberships in ASCE to Philadelphia Section members. Presentations were made by Vice President **Norman G. Weintraub** to eleven members, seven of whom were present at the meeting and received their certificates in person. The seven present were:

Leonard Busch
John E. Carney
John D. DeMoll
Robert M. Haythornthwaite
Hakon G. Rasmussen
Barclay White, Jr.
Nathan D. Wilson

Life Members who were not present at the meeting and whose Certificates will be mailed to them are:

Arthur B. Crosson
Donald J. Gerrity
Cecil H. Hull
Thomas U. Nieh

Hans F. Lorenz, also a 1987 recipient of Life Membership, is a member of the Reading Branch. His Certificate was presented to him in a ceremony at the Reading Branch's March Meeting.

KOERNER CONDUCTS GEOSYNTHETICS SEMINAR

"*Designing with Geosynthetics*", a one-day Seminar, will be conducted by Phila. Section, ASCE President **Robert M. Koerner, Ph.D., P.E.**, Bowman Professor of Civil Engineering, Drexel University.

Date: **Friday, May 22, 1987**
 8:00-5:00 P.M.

Fee: \$150.00 per person, including Lunch and materials, books, etc.

The Engineers' Club
1317 Spruce St., Phila., PA 19107

The Seminar is an overview into the uses, construction and design of geotextiles, geogrids, geomembranes, geocomposites and geonets. Collectively, they are known as geosynthetics. Their utilization and potential to the private and public facility owner, heavy and roadway contractor, Civil and Geotechnical Engineer, is essentially unlimited. The Seminar will follow in detail a 1986 book written by the course lecturer (Dr. Koerner) and will be included in the Seminar fee. **All proceeds from this course will go toward sustaining the Engineers' Club.**

This course has been offered over forty times by Dr. Koerner to audiences around the world, with excellent reception. It is fast-paced, illustrates current projects and designs, and allows for the participants to extend themselves into future utilization of geosynthetic materials in Civil Engineering Applications.

For full information and registration, please call **Jozsef L. de Kovacs, C.C.M., C.F.E.**, Executive Manager of the Engineers' Club, (215) 735-5234.

*"What should I do to relieve the water on my knee?" the woman asked the quack.
 "Wear pumps."*

MARCH MEETING

March 10, 1987 **Engineers' Club**
**THE SCHUYLKILL EXPRESSWAY
RECONSTRUCTION**

By Dave Perri and Sid Robin

An excellent turnout of more than 100 Philadelphia Section members, students and guests attended the regular monthly dinner-meeting and enjoyed an erudite presentation on the subject: "**Construction Management for the Schuylkill Expressway Reconstruction.**" Principal speaker was **Joseph P. McAtee, P.E.**, Project Manager, Construction Management, Joint Venture - Firm of Gaudet/O'Brien Associates and Urban Engineers, Inc.

Section Vice President **Norman G. Weintraub** presided capably in the absence of President **Albert M. Tantara**, who was out of town.

Temple and Spring Garden Night

The meeting honored the ASCE Student Chapters, Faculties, Alumni and Civil Engineering Departments of Temple University and Spring Garden College.

Dr. Robert J. Stone, Faculty Advisor for Temple's Student Chapter, reviewed new programs at the school. With pleasure and satisfaction, he anticipates full accreditation for the Engineering School by the end of the year. Enrollments are increasing encouragingly. Dr. Stone introduced fellow faculty members, **Dr. John L. Rumpf**, and **Dr. Robert M. Haythornthwaite**; and Advisory Board Members **James W. McPhillips** and **Frank A. Cona**, all of whom were in the audience. (Dr. Haythornthwaite was awarded his ASCE Life Membership Certificate later in the program). Dr. Stone described the model beam competition among area colleges, in which Temple, under the expert direction of Senior Student **Joseph De Angelis** and his associates, won the competition. Temple always ranks high in this annual contest.

Temple Student Chapter Activities

Emmanuel Anastasiadis, Chairman of the Temple ASCE Student Chapter, introduced his fellow officers: President - **Paul Sykes**; Vice President - **Michael Scott**; Secretary - **Rich Carrelia**; Treasurer - **Greg Galvalis**. (The office of Student Chapter Chairman was established as a Senior Officer to assure continuity in leadership and collaboration with the President and other officers. Mr. Anastasiadis is a Senior and Mr. Sykes is a Junior). He also acknowledged the sizable contingent of the Student Chapter in attendance.

Chairman Anastasiadis thanked the Section for providing Temple's Student Chapter the opportunity to participate in Section activities. He described the successful year the Chapter is enjoying. Temple will host this year's **Annual Pennsylvania - Delaware Regional Student Chapter Conference and Paper Competition on April 24, 1987**, to which all students and Phila. Section members are invited as guests. (Information about the event may be obtained from Dr. Stone at (215) 787-7814). The Chapter members will be participating again in the Concrete Canoe Races on the Schuylkill River this Spring. Mr. Anastasiadis also paid a very deserving tribute of appreciation to **Dr. Stone** for his untiring efforts on behalf of all the student program, curricula and Chapter activities at Temple.

Ms Mazzochette Speaks for Spring Garden College

In a marvelous extemporaneous presentation (she had no prior notice or preparation) Spring Garden College Student Chapter Secretary **Claire Massochette**, on behalf of her fellow officers and Faculty Advisor (they all arrived late for the meeting) thanked the Section for its courtesies and

presented the names of her colleagues: President - **John Wenner**; Vice President - **Rudy Meckel**; Treasurer - **Paul Carroll**; and Alternate/Representative - **Patrick R. Gordon** (who represents the Student Chapter at Student Government meetings and serves as a substitute standby officer); and Faculty Advisor - Prof. **Judson Vogdes**; and several other students who attended.

Ms Mazzochette described the very successful year enjoyed by the 42-member Student Chapter. Its members participated in the model beam competition; they conceived an interesting new design for the concrete canoe to be entered in the Races this Spring; took part in rewarding field trips to major construction jobs, including the Temple University Hospital Conversion, Commerce Square Complex, and the new IBM Building. They are in process of arranging a visit to One Liberty Place. Ms Mazzochette reflects her fellow officers' and Chapter members' great satisfaction with its accomplishments, and expresses optimism for continued excellent progress.

Mr. McAtee on the Expressway Reconstruction

Joseph P. McAtee, P.E., Vice President of Urban Engineers, Inc. described his firm's joint venture with Gaudet/O'Brien Associates for providing construction management services for the Schuylkill Expressway Reconstruction Project.

Objectives and Innovations

The objectives of the Construction Management support supplied by the two firms were to develop, monitor and maintain a master schedule; performance of constructibility reviews; and to assist in project administration. Mr. McAtee explained that public relations played a vital role in assuring the success of this 17.7 mile project stretching from the Turnpike to University Avenue. Hot lines were established, visitor and commuter brochures developed, and public service announcements broadcasted to minimize the impact on commuters.

To minimize litigation on the project, claims avoidance techniques consisting of analysis of labor use, legal workshops and immediate action on issues requiring direction were implemented. Innovative design and construction techniques for PENNDOT, District 6, included use of CPM schedules, Incentive/Disincentive clauses, and advance utility exploration.

The innovative incentive/disincentive clauses in the contracts proved to be highly successful. This arrangement allowed for a per day benefit of up to \$30,000 to the contractor for each day the project was completed ahead of schedule. By the same token, a \$30,000 per day penalty would be assessed for each day the project exceeded the deadline. As a consequence of the Incentive/Disincentive clauses, \$140 million of construction was completed on time or ahead of schedule. One of the seven heavy construction contracts came in at 46 days ahead of schedule. As explained by Mr. McAtee, the theme of these construction management initiatives is to "Keep the Contractor's fate in his own hands."

Question and Answer Discussion

Extensive comments and questions during a question and answer period following Mr. McAtee's talk further revealed his intense and abundant knowledge of his subject, and his ability to project it in an interesting and forthright manner. His outstanding presentation included excellent diagrams, illustrations and photographs. The Philadelphia Section is grateful to Mr. McAtee and his associates for giving of their time and talents to make this a memorable meeting. Accolades are also in order to **William T. Thomsen**, Chairman of the Section's Transportation and Urban Development Group, who arranged the meeting and introduced our distinguished speaker.

TECHNICAL GROUP DETAILS

Section members will notice in the 1987 dues bill from National ASCE Headquarters, includes 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.*

The appropriate individuals to contact are the following:

Liaison

Susan Lior

Peer Systems, Inc.
1218 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 925-3196

Younger Member Forum

Anthony M. Micciolo, Chairman
Phila. Water Department Design Branch
One Reading Center, 2nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 592-6088

Construction

Fredric L. Plotnick, Chairman
806 Hillton Lane
Elkins Park, PA 19117
(215) 487-1443

Engineering Management

Madeline Salomon, Chairman
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(609) 461-1239

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(215) 751-9555

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(215) 922-8080

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Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 597-4714

It Won't Be Long Now !!!

The Annual Spring Social

Saturday, June 13, 1987

Colleen's Restaurant and Towne Hall
Park Towne Place, 2200 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA

Filet Mignon Dinner
(catered by Colleen's Restaurant directly on the premises)

Fine Cuisine specializing in Hot/Cold Hors D'Oeuvres

Cash Bar

"The Smart Set" Orchestra returns for a repeat performance for your listening and dancing pleasure (Sid Robin & Associates)

Tickets \$30.00 per person -- Guests Welcome

Please make checks payable to "Women's Auxiliary, ASCE" and send for tickets for your reservation.

Mrs. James D. Leasure
376 E. Gowen Avenue
Phila. PA 19119
(215) 242-0872

MAIN STREET BLUES

(Reprinted from a recent issue of
THE SATURDAY EVENING POST)

*They started digging years ago
When Main Street was much newer.
Since then they've dug each month or so
For gas mains or a sewer.*

*In rain or snow, you'll spot their rig.
They dig in every season.
When there's no longer cause to dig,
They'll dig to find the reason.*

— Dick Quistorf

BLUE LIGHT SPECIAL

Experiments with a blue traffic light have begun in Berne, Switzerland, where it flashes alongside the red one to remind motorists to switch off their ignition. Municipal authorities installed the extra blue light in an effort to save fuel and eliminate unnecessary environmental pollution.

Blue lights at 110 traffic lights reportedly could save at least 2 million liters of motor fuel and reduce vehicle emission by 600 tons if everyone was to switch the ignition off as indicated. (An idling engine was found to use as much oxygen in a second as a baby breathes in 2½ hours.)

Switching off only makes sense if the engine won't have to be switched on again for at least 10 seconds. Anything less is likely to result in higher fuel consumption and emission.

HURRY!

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*"No one can make you feel
inferior without your consent."*

SEE THE MARCH, 1987
ISSUE OF THE NEWS
FOR DETAILS AND
NOMINATION FORMS