

the news



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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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Vol. 72-4

Our 86th Year

February, 2000

PLEASE NOTE NEW ELECTRONIC MESSAGE HOTLINE ABOVE

FEBRUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers
South Jersey Branch, New Jersey Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2000

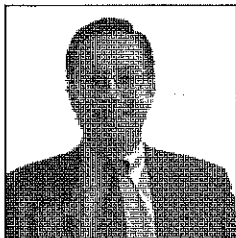
HARBOR LEAGUE CLUB • Hudson Square • Camden, NJ • See Location Map Below
Cocktails – 6:00 p.m. • Dinner – 6:30 p.m. • Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

SUBJECT: The Delaware River Aerial Tram Project

SPEAKER: Matthew Cummings, Associate Vice President, Frederic R. Harris, Inc., and Project Manager.

SPECIAL FEATURE: TEMPLE UNIVERSITY and VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY NIGHT. The ASCE Student Chapters, Alumni and Faculties of the Civil Engineering Departments of Temple and Villanova Universities will be honored at this meeting. All Students, Faculty and Alumni are cordially invited.

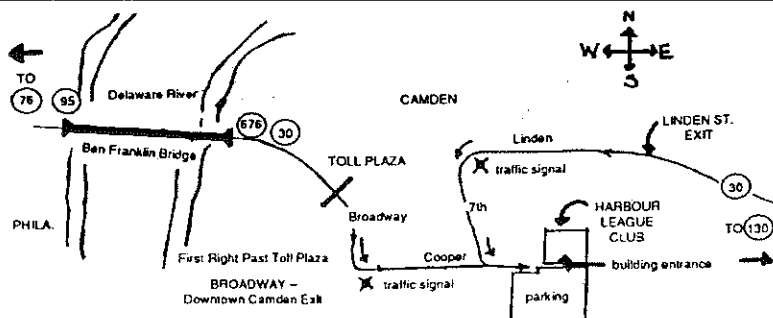
RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FEBRUARY 18, 2000. Cost is \$27.00 per person, ASCE Student Members \$13.00. Send checks payable to the Phila. Section, ASCE, P.O. Box 58186, Phila., PA 19102-8186; or call the Electronic Message Center: **1-800-461-4190** (Open 24 hours/day).



Imagine travelling from a restaurant at Penn's Landing to a ballgame in Camden — viewing the Philadelphia skyline as you ride high above the Delaware River in an aerial tram. The journey will be closer to reality this coming summer as construction of the Delaware River Aerial Tram is slated to begin.

At the February Joint ASCE meeting, **Matt Cummings**, Project Manager with Frederic R. Harris, will make a presentation on the exciting Delaware River Aerial Tram project by discussing its background and development over the past eighteen months. Frederic R. Harris, as consultant to project owner, Delaware River Port Authority, is currently in the final stages of design

(Continued on Page 2)



LOCATION MAP for Harbor League Club, Camden, NJ

TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Delaware Valley Geo-Institute Group (DVGI)

March Meeting

DATE: March 7, 2000, Social Hour 6:15 pm;

Dinner 7:15 pm; Presentation 8:00 pm

LOCATION: Holiday Inn, King of Prussia, PA

SUBJECT: Ground Improvement — Super Jet Grouting Atlantic City

SPEAKER: Jim Wheeler, Hayward Baker Co.

For full details and reservations (deadline March 2, 2000), please contact **Mike Byle**, Chairman, at Gannett Fleming, Inc., P.O. Box 80794, Valley Forge, PA 19484-0794, Phone: **(610) 650-8101**, Fax: **(610) 650-8190**.

Upcoming Activities

DATE: April 11, 2000

SUBJECT: Geophysical Investigations for Geological and Geotechnical Engineering

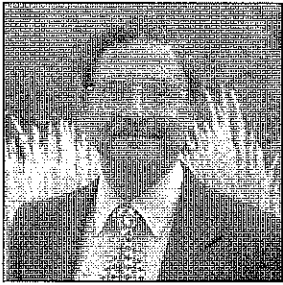
SPEAKER: Rich Lee, Quantum Geophysics

If you are interested in participating in the organizational planning for the DVGI, or would like to get on the e-mail list for announcements please contact **Mike Byle**, Chairman, by e-mail at "mbyle@gfnet.com."

December DVGI Meeting

The December DVGI meeting was held on December 15, 1999 at the Philadelphia Airport Hilton in conjunction with the Geosynthetics Institute Annual Meeting. The meeting was attended by 24 members, **Dr. Imad Al-Qadi**, a professor in the Via Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech, presented the Smart Road for which he is currently the principal investigator of the pavement research. The Virginia Smart Road in southwest Virginia is a unique, state-of-the-art, full-scale research facility for pavement research and evaluation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) concepts, technologies, and products. The Smart Road is a 9.6-km connector highway between Blacksburg and I-81 in southwest Virginia, with the first 3.2 km designated as a controlled test facility. The instrumented Smart Road project provides an excellent

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are in the first year of the new millennium, or the last of the second one depending on whom you ask. I hope all of you had an uneventful transition as did I from the old year to the new. I would also hope that you as an ASCE member of the Phila. Section included a resolution to be more active in the Section's activities this year. Our last three monthly meetings and the December tour had a good turnout, and I urge you all to come in such numbers again in the future. The planned monthly talks will be on projects of local as well as global interest.

This year will also be notable as the Society presents the inaugural OPAL (Outstanding Projects and Leaders) awards in conjunction with the 40th Annual Outstanding Civil Engineering Award (OCEA). The event will be celebrated with due pomp and circumstance and appropriate media coverage in the nation's capital on **April 29, 2000**. You can find additional information regarding the awards ceremony and dinner at the Society's web site — www.asce.org. The Society hopes that instituting these awards will remove the perception that *Civil Engineering*, unlike other professions, does not sufficiently honor its own heroes.

The new paradigm of organizational mechanics is continuous self-assessment and that involves an examination of its goals and objectives, usually within a period of five years. ASCE is in the process of reevaluating the same, and its strategic plan that it had developed five years ago. The proposed new vision statement, *Engineers Building a Better Quality of Life* has generated much discussion and some controversy; and rightly so. If you have any comments about the vision statement you could email them to the Strategic Planning Committee at strategicplanning@asce.org. or send a letter addressed to the committee at the Society's office in Reston, Virginia. All members should read the proposed strategic plan document available online at the Society's website. An organization run by volunteers needs input and feedback from its membership to keep itself focused and on the right track.

The month we should all be celebrating **National Engineers' Week, February 20-26**, with appropriate enthusiasm and energy. Civil Engineers in the area are very much active in the activities sponsored by the Engineers' Week Council of Delaware Valley. These include several current and recent past Directors or Officers of the Section — **Chris Rood, Bob Wright, Bill Thompson, Joe Syrnick and Larry Moy** (also Engineers of the Year, 1997, 1999). I urge all members of the Section to participate actively in these festivities and show your support for the profession.

Sincerely, Faruq M.A. Siddiqui, Ph.D.
President, Phila. Section, ASCE

February Joint Dinner Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)
for the tram project.

The tram is a one-of-a-kind transportation facility linking the waterfront activities in Camden and Philadelphia. One of the most high profile ventures in the metropolitan Philadelphia region, the tram will connect major civic and retail developments in Philadelphia, PA and Camden, NJ. The projects include a \$175 million Philadelphia Family Entertainment Center, a complementary \$100 million Camden Sports Entertainment District, and a \$25 million Minor League baseball stadium in Camden. All in an effort to promote development along the booming Delaware River waterfront.

As a detachable gondola system, the Delaware River Aerial Tram transports eight-passenger gondolas much like what would be found at a ski area. The system is capable of delivering 2500 people per hour at full capacity and will run in all seasons. A unique feature of this system is its 1900-foot center span, made necessary to clear the shipping lanes on the Delaware River. A suspension cable system will support the gondolas, and will be carried by two three-hundred-foot high towers located at the edges of the Delaware River.

Landing terminals will be situated within the proposed developments at Penn's Landing and in Camden. The Camden tram terminal has been designed to be a focal point in the proposed devel-

opment, anchoring its many activities. Coordinating the design of the terminals within yet-to-be-built developments has been a planning and design challenge.

These issues and many other engineering, environmental and permitting issues will be the focus of Matt's presentation on the Delaware River Tram project. Matt will discuss the development of the project and provide an update of ongoing design activities.

Mr. Matthew Cummings is a Professional Engineer with a 15-year background in the transportation engineering field. He's an Associate Vice President with Frederic R. Harris, Inc., working from the firm's Philadelphia office. He is responsible for management and marketing oversight of the highway and bridge group in Philadelphia, and is the Project Manager for the Delaware River Aerial Tram project. He also serves as project manager for several other major transportation projects.

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Technical Group Activities

(Continued from Page 1)

opportunity to test various hypotheses on pavement performance and material characteristics. One of its unique features is All Weather Condition facility that has the ability to generate or simulate weather conditions using snow towers capable of producing 100mm/hour and rainfall of up to 50mm/hr. Pavement sensors were embedded

during construction, completed in November 1999. The instruments are connected to six data acquisition systems housed in underground bunkers and connected through a fiber optic network to a control center. The presentation was in-depth and Dr. Al-Qadi did an outstanding job in his presentation and stayed to answer questions until everyone was satisfied.

Other News

The DVGI has completed a working draft of its new bylaws. The new bylaws are under review by the Section and Institutes Coordinator. We hope to have formal elections for Officers at our April

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PHILA. SECTION, ASCE OFFICERS 1999-2000

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR
MARCH 2000 ISSUE
FEBRUARY 17, 2000**

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

by Christopher Menna, President & Forum Editor

The Younger Member Forum (YMF) current membership includes college students, recent graduates, and young Registered Professional Engineers who are 35 years of age and under. The objectives of this group are: 1) To provide networking opportunities, 2) To interact with schools and the general public to promote Civil Engineering, and 3) To enhance career development.

Young engineers or college students who would like to become part of the YMF please contact **Chris Barber**, Armand Corporation at (609) 348-9430.

Past Accomplishments

On **Saturday, November 20, 1999** the YMF volunteered for the Friends of the Wissahickon (FOW) to remove an old wood-shingle roof from a picnic pavilion located along Forbidden Drive in Wissahickon Park. A total of ten volunteers from the YMF and the Philadelphia Section, ASCE successfully completed the task in a couple of hours. During the event, **Mr. Bill Mifflin**, Director of the Philadelphia Fairmount Park Commission, took a break from his morning walk through the park to speak with the volunteers and to observe the work being done. The removal of the old roof allowed the FOW to install a new wood roof and restore one of the Wissahickon Park's beautiful structures. **Christopher Wright**, Frederic R. Harris organized this event for the YMF.

The Fourth Annual ASCE/YMF Winter Social was held on **Friday, December 3, 1999** at Saffron House in Center City, Philadelphia. This well-attended event provided the opportunity for

(Continued on Page 4)

Technical Group Activities

(Continued from Page 2)

Meeting to set things up to be official for the 2000-2001 season. If you are interested in serving on the DVGI nominating committee, notify **Mike Byle**, Chairman, at mbyle@gfnet.com or (610) 650-8101.

Transportation Group

The Phila. Section, ASCE Transportation Group is planning two additional Luncheon Meetings for later this Spring. Our remaining schedule for the 1999-2000 season is as follows:

March 29, 2000

Joint meeting with the Construction Group. **Mr. F. Richard Kreck, P.E.**, Vice President, Urban Engineers, and **Mr. Charles Odgers, P.E.**, Director of Construction, Delaware River Port Authority, will discuss the recently completed \$74 million dollar Walt Whitman Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

April 2000

SEPTA's Schuylkill Metro Update

Look for a future issue of THE NEWS for the confirmed date and time for the April meeting.

Reservations are required for the March 29th meeting with seating limited to 50. Please contact **Chris L. Rood, P.E.**, Transportation Group

JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

January 12, 2000

Holiday Inn, King of Prussia, PA

"Grace Under Fire"

By Bob Wright, Staff Writer

An overflow crowd of more than 225 members, guests and students attended a highly interesting Joint Dinner Meeting — an annual event — of the Phila. Section, ASCE, and the Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE), on January 12, 2000, at the Holiday Inn, King of Prussia, PA. The subject was "Grace Under Fire," and the articulate featured speaker was **Janet S. Sanders, Ph.D.**, Vice president, Business Planning and Marketing, Sverdrup Civil, Inc., a Jacobs Company, Maryland Heights, Missouri. The meeting was ably co-chaired by **Dr. Faruq Siddiqui, P.E.**, and **John J. Peirce, P.E.**, President of the Delaware Valley Section, ASHE.

Drexel University Night

The meeting recognized and honored the ASCE Student Chapter, Alumni and Faculty of the Civil and Architectural Engineering Department, Drexel University. The affiliates had a sizable representation at the meeting.

Dr. Martin Review

Dr. Joseph P. Martin, Head of Drexel's Civil and Architectural Engineering Department, proudly proclaimed Drexel's status as one of the largest and prestigious Civil and Architectural Engineering colleges in the United States. He also pointed out with prideful emphasis that several of the highest officials of the University are Civil Engineers. Dr. Martin described some major new developments in the Department, principally celebrating the completion of a comprehensive new laboratory building on campus. He also reviewed present and future plans for curricula expansion.

Student Chapter Treasurer Speaks

Drexel ASCE Student Chapter Treasurer **Denise Welsh**, representing the other Chapter officials, who were unable to attend the meeting because of pressure to prepare for exam period, thanked her hosts for their invitation and courtesies, and acknowledged her fellow officers: President, **Alyssa Koch**; Vice President, **Brad Springer**; Secretary, **Tom Halliwell**; ASCE Student Chapter Faculty Advisor, **Dr. Jonathan Cheng**; and several other Faculty members.

Miss Welsh described the Chapter's busy agenda, which included regular meetings; tours of major building projects in the Phila. Metropolitan area and other cities; active participation in the Annual Steel Beam and Concrete Canoe Race Competitions, presentations by representatives of eminent consulting Engineering firms and con-

Chairman, at (215) 580-7586 or **John Quirus**, Younger Member Forum contact at (215) 790-2311 for reservations and if you have any questions.

Also, if anyone is interested in participating in the Transportation Group's planning for upcoming meetings/events, please contact **Chris L. Rood, P.E.** at (215) 580-7586.

tractors; and many other technical and community activities.

Mr. Peirce Introduces Ms. Sanders

After announcements by Presidents Peirce and Siddiqui on matters of local interest to their respective organizations, Mr. Peirce presented the featured speaker of the evening, **Ms. Janet Sanders, Ph.D.**, Vice President, Business Planning and Marketing, Sverdrup Civil, Inc.

Importance of Communication

Dr. Sanders began with an emphasis that spoken communication is important, especially for engineers who generally have had little or no formal training in this area. There is also a great difference between situations in which one has time to prepare a presentation versus that in which an impromptu response is expected. She noted that she would focus on the latter.

Ms. Sanders explained that effective communication must master the content, organization and delivery of the response. In situations in which "grace under fire" is needed, this must be done quickly and succinctly. She suggested that the development of strategy for such a response must be directed toward how to achieve a desired goal. This could begin with up to five ideas around which a response could be built. She advised that this should start where the listeners are and be structured as to take the listeners where you want them to go. The tendency for this in an "under fire" setting could be panic, too little information, or too much.

Structure and PRER

Structure is critical. Thoughts should be organized for maximum impact. Ms. Sanders stated that this should capture the attention of the listeners, lay groundwork for the response, motivate the listeners to accept your ideas, help to sell the ideas, and "seal the deal." Style should reflect the competence, confidence and energy you can provide.

Ms. Sanders offered the "PRER" approach to this situation — Point, Reason, Example, and Restatement — as the outline to follow. She added that this often involves a change in the thought process we have been taught, especially in our engineering training, which relies on inductive reasoning. While this may be an effective thought process, it is not conducive to communication.

Ms. Sanders gave examples of visual style and brought volunteers from the attendees to demonstrate how the use of the "PRER" method works in the impromptu setting.

Audience Commentary and Participation

Many members of the audience addressed interesting inquiries and commentary to our distinguished speaker; and also voluntarily participated in her demonstrations of the PRER exercise. President Peirce acknowledged Ms. Sanders' splendid, articulate presentation, replete with wit,

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PHILA. SECTION ASCE HUMPHREY FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Phila. Section, ASCE, is pleased to announce the availability of its 2000 scholarships. It is anticipated that up to three scholarships, each worth up to \$5,000, will be awarded at our Annual Spring Social Dinner Dance, on **Friday, May 5, 2000**, at the Sugarloaf Conference Center, Chestnut Hill, PA. The number and amount of the actual awards remains at the discretion of both the Section's Scholarship Committee and the Section's Board of Directors.

Type of Award:

We recognize that different colleges have different regulations as to scholarships, stipends and awards. It is the Phila. Section's intent to provide these awards to give the maximum financial support to the individual engineering student, within his/her college's rules. Therefore, the form of award will be that most beneficial to the student consistent with his/her college regulations. Unless indicated otherwise by the student, a check in the name of the award recipient will be presented.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. The student must be matriculating in a full-time Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program in one of the six colleges in the Phila. Section region (Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, Temple University, Villanova University and Widener University).
2. The student must be an active participant in the ASCE Student Chapter.
3. Students in their Sophomore & Junior year (& Pre-Juniors at Drexel) are eligible to submit.

Submission:

The candidate must submit the following to his/her Faculty Advisor:

- An essay, limited to 1,000 words on, "*How Can Civil Engineers Enhance Their Profession?*," is required.
- The candidate's name, GPA and/or class rank and an address/telephone where they can be reached must be included. Additional information for consideration (such as need) is allowed. A letter and/or resume is an acceptable means to provide this information.

Faculty Advisor Evaluation:

Each Chapter's advisor will evaluate all their candidates and select two for submission to the Phila. Section's Scholarship Committee (address under "Deadline" below). The GPA and/or class rank should be verified as they may be used by the Scholarship Committee in their evaluation. If the university does not release class rank, the advisor should provide some indication as to the candidate's standing. The advisor will formally nominate these candidates by including a letter of endorsement from a member of the faculty along with the submission.

Section Evaluation:

The Section Scholarship Committee will evaluate all nominations and select award recipi-

Younger Member Forum

(Continued from Page 3)

Younger Members and some ASCE Philadelphia Section members to socialize in an informal atmosphere. Tickets were sold for raffle prizes, the proceeds of which were donated to Habitat for Humanity's North-Central Philadelphia Section. **Scott Rothman**, volunteer coordinator for this section of Habitat for Humanity, talked to the group about upcoming projects and about the volunteer organization in general. We would like to thank **Jody DeMarco**, Goodkind & O'Dea, and **Carol Martsoff**, Parsons Brinckerhoff, for organizing this event.

The following businesses and companies donated raffle prizes to the 1999 ASCE/YMF Winter Social. We would like to thank each of these businesses for their generous support: **The Pennsylvania General Store**, Reading Terminal Market, 12th and Arch Streets, which donated a large gift basket; **Samosa Restaurant**, 1214 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, which donated a gift certificate; **Parsons Brinckerhoff**, 1528 Walnut Street, Suite 400, Philadelphia, which donated two \$50.00 gift certificates to Border's Book Store; **Urban Engineers**, 530 Walnut Street, 14th Floor, Philadelphia, which donated a set of golf balls; **Sidetracks Café**, 14 S. Lansdowne Avenue, Lansdowne, PA, which donated a coffee mug and chocolate; **A Little of This and That**, 35 North Lansdowne Avenue, Lansdowne, PA, which donated a Millennium Bear beanie baby.

The Philadelphia Section, ASCE Younger Members Forum (YMF) has prepared a busy schedule of Technical Group Meetings that are being held jointly with the Section Technical Groups. On December 9, 1999, the ASCE Construction Group arranged to have **Ms. Natalia Luchanko** of SEPTA speak about their Frankford Transportation Center Project. On January 18, 2000, the ASCE Geotechnical Technical Group arranged to have **Mr. Roy Hunt** of the Inter-American Development Bank speak on the Evaluation of Landslides in the Andes Mountains in Ecuador. On January 20, 2000, the Phila. Section, ASCE Transportation Group presented **Mr. Andrew Linton** of the City of Philadelphia and **Mr. David Miller** of Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas who spoke on the *Roosevelt Boulevard*

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ents for scholarships or other form of stipend.

Awardees will be invited guests at our Annual Spring Social Dinner Dance on **May 5, 2000**, to receive their awards and will be asked to participate in future ASCE educational outreach activities.

Submission Deadline:

Submissions must be made to the faculty advisor by **Wednesday, March 22, 2000**. Faculty Advisors must submit their nominations to **Thomas J. Branigan**, President-Elect of the Phila. Section at City of Philadelphia, Department of Streets, 1401 JFK Boulevard, Room 830, Philadelphia, PA 19102-1676 by **Friday, March 31, 2000**. The President-Elect will forward submissions to the Scholarship Committee.

THE YOUNG ENGINEERS' FORUM

Critical Issues Facing Young Engineers

Fourth Annual Networking Seminar

Sponsored by:

The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia &
The Phila. Section, American Society
of Civil Engineers

Tuesday, February 22, 2000
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
PECO Energy Hall, West Lobby
2301 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

FEATURING

YMF President John Zarsky
2000 Delaware Valley
Young Engineer of the Year
and Other Prominent
Engineering Leaders

Admission, Food & Refreshments FREE!

Come join us for discussions concerning the upcoming issues facing younger engineers. Topics include industry trends in civil engineering, such as salary and work conditions, where the profession is heading in the year 2000; what younger engineers can expect; and how they should prepare.

Reservations are required! Call **Kristen Bowman**, ASCE/YMF Assistant Secretary, at (215) 361-6065 by **Thursday, February 17, 2000** or mail at kbowman@flowscience.com. Please specify any issues you would like discussed during the open forum.

4TH ANNUAL STUDENT PROJECT MALL DISPLAY

Sponsored by:

The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia &
The Phila. Section, American Society
of Civil Engineers

Saturday, February 26, 2000
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
The Gallery at Market East, Center Court
9th & Market Streets, Philadelphia, PA

FEATURING

Philadelphia Regional
Future City Competition Models
A Coalition of Engineering Societies
Dr. Richard E. Woodring's K'Nex Bridges (invited)

ADMISSION FREE!

Bring the family and join us in judging Future City Competition Models for a special Civil Engineering award. Come help to inform citizens of the value of engineers; celebrate engineering technology and innovation, and cultivate interest in math, science and engineering among the Delaware Valley's youth — tomorrow's work force.

Judges and coordinators are needed. For information, contact **Sandra J. May** at (610) 941-1703 or **Ruben David** at (215) 683-4454.

February Joint Dinner Meeting

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Holding a BSCE degree from Lehigh University, Mr. Cummings also earned a certificate from the Wharton Management Program at the University of Pennsylvania. Matt has been with Frederic R. Harris, Inc. for seven years, and was previously employed with several regional consulting engineering firms.

January Joint Dinner Meeting

(Continued from Page 3)

interesting anecdotes and humorous references. On behalf of ASCE and ASHE, he presented her a Certificate of Appreciation and a thank you gift.

Free Dinner Tickets

The Phila. Section, ASCE, inaugurated a continuing policy of raffling off two free dinner tickets to a lucky winner.

Younger Member Forum

(Continued from Page 4)

Corridor Transportation Investment Study. On January 26, 2000 the Section's Construction Group presented **Mr. Bob Wright** and **Mr. Larry Bender**, both from the City of Philadelphia, Department of Streets, who spoke on *Chestnut Street Intermodal Improvement Project.* For more information or to be added to the ASCE YMF Technical Group mailing list, contact **Michael Scott**, Urban Engineers at (215) 922-8080.

Upcoming Events

The 2000 Northeast Regional Younger Member Council (NERYMC) will take place on **March 3-5, 2000** in Pittsburgh, PA. The NERYMC Conference provides Younger Members from each Zone I Section and Branch the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas as well as discuss issues that are close to the hearts of young engineers and ASCE as a whole. Scheduling NERYMC in conjunction with the Zone I Management and Leadership Conference (ZMLC) enables Younger Members to have a direct voice to the ASCE National leaders and interact with those who are making the decisions about ASCE's future. Our YMF will be sending a group to this conference. Interested YMF members should contact **Christopher Menna**, Phila. Streets Department at (215) 686-5070 for more information.

Member Spotlight

The purpose of the member spotlight is to introduce a fellow YMF member to the Delaware Valley Engineering Community.

Jill Spiess, P.E. is a Project Manager employed by KCI Technologies in Bensalem, Bucks County. She has just recently relocated to our area. She previously worked at KCI's headquarters in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Her past experience includes working on Baltimore City's Storm Drainage, where she performed detailed hydraulic modeling of its stormdrain systems using computer models and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). She brings stormwater management expertise to KCI's Philadelphia Region Office and

SECTION TO RECOMMEND CHANGES TO BYLAWS

The Philadelphia Section, ASCE, has proposed several minor changes to the Section Bylaws to permit the formation of "Technical Institute Chapters" within the Section. Basically, these revisions would provide for the creation of groups similar to the Technical Groups in the Section which would be adjuncts of National ASCE's Institute program. Currently, the Geo-Institute has requested such recognition at the Section level. As other Institutes are organized at the local level, the proposed changes would similarly permit their formation.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Section, any changes in Bylaws do NOT require voting approval by Section members but can be adopted by the Section Board of Directors. These changes are available to be reviewed by Section members. To avoid postage and printing costs, the Section Board has recommended that the proposed revisions be made available to interested members by request rather than a general mailing to all members. If you would like to receive a copy of the proposed Bylaws revisions, please contact the Section by mail at the post office box or leave a message on the Section Hotline and a copy will be forwarded to you.

The Board respectfully requests that all comments be received by **April 1, 2000** as action is expected to take place at the April Board meeting.

2000 DELAWARE VALLEY SCIENCE FAIRS

The Phila. Section, ASCE, will again be participating in the **Annual Delaware Valley Science Fair**. This year's Fairs' judging day will be **Wednesday, April 5, 2000** at the Fort Washington Expo Center. As in the past, the Section will be judging and subsequently presenting special awards. Our Section is looking for eight judges to participate in our judging, with the Science Fairs needing approximately 500 judges.

For further information and/or to volunteer as a judge, please contact Phila. Section Vice President **Chris L. Rood, P.E.** at (215) 580-7586 or via email at c-t-rood@msn.com.

plans to help develop its Water Resources Discipline there. In addition, Jill is currently working on some area PennDot roadway projects. Furthermore, this past summer she sat as an employee representative on KCI's Board of Directors, where she participated in company strategic planning. Jill is a Registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey. In 1998, she completed her Masters of Business Administration at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. She has been an officer and an active member in the Maryland Section's YMF as well. In fact, at last year's NERYMC, she served as Chair for the Maryland Younger Member Committee, helping to jointly run the NERYMC in Providence, Rhode Island. Our YMF is now very pleased to have Jill Spiess as one of our members.

SECTION MEMBER DONATES WEB PAGE SERVICES

By Tom Branigan

If you have stumbled across our Section's web page lately, you will find it to be up to date. This may be what you expect, but in a volunteer organization, it is no small task. While we all may be expert in our respective civil engineering specializations, few of us know enough about the intricacies of the internet to maintain a web page. That is where **Tim Brouse** comes in. Tim has been working behind the scenes since 1995. He, with the donated use of his brother's internet provider, set up our original entrée into cyberspace. After moving to Florida in 1996, Tim temporarily passed the maintenance of our page to the Swarthmore Student Chapter, which handled the task commendably during his absence from the area.

Tim has returned to the area with Alta Design Associates, Inc. and again is donating his time and services in support of the Section's Page. His plans are to include the Younger Member Forum events and information as well as creating a library of past articles. It is this kind of volunteer effort that keeps our Section strong. We would like to take this opportunity to commend Tim for his efforts. To see more of what Tim is doing for us, visit our web site at: <http://philanet.com/~asce/>

PHILADELPHIA WILL HOST BIGGEST-EVER AIA CONVENTION & EXPO

The AIA 2000 National Convention and Exposition will be the biggest ever! Most Exhibitors! Most Educational Programming! Biggest Exposition Floor! Latest Design and Construction Technologies!

More than 15,000 architects and industry professionals will attend the AIA Convention and Expo which will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia from **Thursday, May 4 through Saturday, May 6, 2000.**

The most important annual architecture event in the United States, the AIA Convention is the must-attend gathering for architects, design-related manufacturers, architecture students, and others involved in the world of design.

The theme of Philadelphia2000 will be "*New Century — New Vision: Livable Communities for America's Future.*" Speakers, experts and attendees will share and consider strategies for improving the livability of the nation's communities.

"Bringing together our most creative thinkers and practitioners from around the country, we will be setting the pace for some of the biggest issues we are now facing: the importance of high-quality design, sustainable development, and the general welfare of the public," says **AIA President Ronald L. Skaggs, FAIA.**

Andrew Young, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Mayor of Atlanta, will

(Continued on Page 6)

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IMPORTANT! REMAINING 1999-2000 MEETING NOTICES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! for the dates of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE monthly meetings and social functions, as follows: (Check each upcoming edition of THE NEWS for additional details, possible date and topic changes.) THIS IS A TENTATIVE LIST.

ALL DINNER MEETINGS (except as noted): Cocktails - 5:30 pm; Dinner - 6:30 pm; Meeting - 7:30 pm

Students: All dinner and/or luncheon charges one-half price. If you prefer, you are welcome to attend all meetings after dinner or luncheon, at no charge.

Thursday, March 16, 2000

Joint Dinner Meeting with Delaware Valley Chapter, American Concrete Institute (ACI) • Williamson's City Line • Topic and Speaker to be announced. Widener University Night.

Thursday, April 20, 2000

"Three Gorges Dam Project, China" • Speaker: Jennifer Lin. Swarthmore College Night.

Friday, May 5, 2000

Annual Spring Social Dinner Dance • Sugarloaf Conference Center, Chestnut Hill, PA. Details to be announced.

AIA Convention & Expo

(Continued from Page 5)

open Philadelphia2000 and address how we can adapt our sense of the community in the face of the rapidly changing lifestyles in the cities and suburbs.

Attendees will participate in more than 160 continuing education seminars and 20 half-day workshops. The programs will focus on a wide variety of design issues, from "The Six-Story Alternative: A New Model for Cities and Suburbs" to "Continuous Client Care: Philosophies and Tools for the 21st Century."

Convention attendees will have numerous opportunities to embrace Philadelphia's rich architectural heritage with more than two dozen bus and walking tours, such as "Independence National Historic Park" and "Philadelphia's Main Line." A special three-day pre-convention tour will visit Frank Lloyd Wright's masterwork Falling Water.

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More than 550 manufacturers and providers will exhibit a vast array of products and services in the AIA Expo2000. For architects and industry professionals, there is no better place to get up-to-date on the rapid pace of technological development in the design industry.

In the New Product Center attendees can view many of the new products and technologies in one place and be directed to visit exhibitors on the Expo floor. Additionally, AIA Expo2000 will feature industry specific pavilions, where attendees can see products and talk to representatives from several different manufacturers. These pavilions include Hi-Tech, Roofing, Lighting and Stone and Tile Products.

For additional information on the AIA 2000 National Convention and Expo, please call the Convention Hotline at (202) 626-7395.

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