

# the news



Address Service Requested  
**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

FIRST CLASS  
POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 130  
CONCORDVILLE  
PA 19331

PHILADELPHIA SECTION  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

P. O. Box 58186, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8186  
Electronic Message Hotline: 1-800-461-4190 (24 hours a day)  
Web site: <http://www.asce-philly.org>  
National ASCE Central Number 1-800-548-ASCE • Toll Free

The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE

Vol. 77-5

## Our 92nd Year

February 2005

### FEBRUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

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

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005

WYNDHAM HOTEL • Route 73 • Mount Laurel, NJ  
Cocktails – 6:00 p.m. • Dinner – 6:30 p.m. • Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

**SUBJECT:** PATCO Happenings

**SPEAKER:** Robert A. Box, P.E., General Manager, Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO)

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2005.** Please send your check for the number of attendees at \$30 per member or guest, \$15 per ASCE Student Member. Checks should be made payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE" and sent to ASCE, PO Box 58186, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8186. Reservations can also be made on the Electronic Message Center, 800-461-4190, or via e-mail at [info@asce-philly.org](mailto:info@asce-philly.org). Walk-ins will be subject to acceptance on a space-available basis. **THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE.**

The PATCO High-Speed Line has been in operation since January 1969 and celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year. The Speed Line has been an unqualified success and a model which other transit agencies throughout the world have followed.

Over the past 5 years, the Line has begun to receive particular attention as much of its original infrastructure is coming due for repairs and rehabilitation. A number of major track renewal, bridge restoration and station/parking lot projects have been undertaken. Other efforts are being directed at the fare collection system, which is totally automated but with an outdated technology, and the fleet. Roughly 75 of the line's 120 vehicles date to the start-up of service and will be in need of replacement in the next 5 years, despite the high levels of maintenance and attention given to them, and the

*(Continued on Page 2)*

### MARCH JOINT DINNER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers,  
Women's Transportation Seminar, Philadelphia Chapter, and  
Mid-Atlantic Section, Institute of Transportation Engineers

## THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005

UNION LEAGUE • 140 South Broad Street (at Sansom Street) • Center City Philadelphia  
Cocktails – 5:30 p.m. • Dinner – 6:30 p.m. • Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

**SUBJECT:** South Jersey Transportation Master Plan

**SPEAKER:** Kathleen Aufschneider, P.E., Chief Engineer, South Jersey Transportation Authority

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2005.** Please send your check for the number of attendees at \$30 per member or guest, \$15 per ASCE Student Member. Checks should be made payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE" and sent to ASCE, PO Box 58186, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8186. Reservations can also be made on the Electronic Message Center, 800-461-4190, or via e-mail at [info@asce-philly.org](mailto:info@asce-philly.org). Walk-ins will be subject to acceptance on a space-available basis. **THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE.**

### TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

#### Engineering Management Technical Group

*Joint Meeting with the  
Younger Member Forum*

*Luncheon Meeting*

**SUBJECT:** An Approach to Overcoming Your  
Engineering Training

Graduates with an Engineering degree are well trained in the application of established algorithms related to their field of expertise. As important as these skills are, there is a large array of concepts that is equally important for success. This presentation is intended to create an awareness of these concepts and their effective application.

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 30, 2005, 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Municipal Services Building, 16th Floor, Conference Room E, 15th & JFK Blvd., Philadelphia, PA

**PRICE:** Hot Buffet Lunch – \$10; Students – \$5

**SPEAKER:** Donald J. Koestler, President, DJ Koestler, LLC

Don is a graduate of Villanova University with a degree in Chemical Engineering. During his 40 years with Rohm and Haas Company, he held managerial and leadership positions in manufacturing, engineering, and corporate technology. He played a key role in the establishment of the company's Process Development Network. He is currently an Adjunct Professor in Drexel University's Graduate Program in Engineering Management and teaches courses in "Leadership in Engineering Management", "Engineering Management – Paradox and Creativity" and "Systems Thinking."

For reservations, please contact **Dennis MacBride** at [dmacbride@septa.org](mailto:dmacbride@septa.org) or (215) 580-3404 or **Bill Mulloy** at [William.J.Mulloy@nap02usace.army.mil](mailto:William.J.Mulloy@nap02usace.army.mil) or (215) 656-6583 no later than Friday, March 25, 2005.

*(Continued on Page 9)*



## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

**WELCOME 2005!** As we enter into the New Year, there are always questions, expectations and hopes for the future. I like to think that we prepare ourselves to answer those questions, create the path for our expectations, and plan for the future. Granted that we do not know what the future brings, like the terrible tsunami that occurred just before year end, but we can plan for what we do know which puts us in a better position to react and support activities that go on around us.

The New Year brings new opportunities. One of the ASCE, Phila. Section's strongest advocates and activists, **Joe Syrnick**, has taken on a new challenge with the Schuylkill River Development Corporation after serving us so well for so many years working for the City of Philadelphia. His challenge, as he outlined in our January meeting, is to help revitalize the area along the Schuylkill River. Many of us have set our sights on our careers, some on involvement in community and society involvement. Well, I say that you should choose your passion and make it happen!

The ASCE, Phila. Section was notified in December that the Sugarloaf Conference Center, the site of our Spring Social, is permanently closing. Therefore, **Carol Martsof** has taken on the task of finding a new location for the event. We fully expect to sign a contract in February with a new location for our Social. Also, a number of our younger members will be attending the ASCE Leadership Conference in late January in Hershey, PA. This conference familiarizes our young professionals with the workings of ASCE National, which will become a more significant issue now that the new governance structure has passed. **Chris Menna** and **Carol Martsof** will participate in meetings to determine the new structure and bylaws of the Philadelphia Section's new region.

This month, I have an easy task to choose the person that made a significant contribution to the Section, the aforementioned **Joe Syrnick**. As for how Engineers make a difference, that is also an easy task after viewing the outpouring of both time and money that has been given to the areas struck by the tsunami. Whenever tragedy occurs, Engineers and the community as a whole never fail to respond! Thanks for all those that donated time or money to this worthy cause.

Your Board continues to work hard for the membership. Many are volunteering in upcoming activities for Engineers Week, two of your Board members have been named Co-Young Engineers of the Year, planning is ongoing for outreach activities, the social, and upcoming meetings, and other activities to heighten awareness of Civil Engineering.

Remember, **GET INVOLVED!**

Sincerely,  
Brian A. Stover, P.E.  
President - Philadelphia Section, ASCE

## February Joint Dinner Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

remaining cars will be celebrating their 25th birthdays this year.

Expansion of the PATCO system has additionally been the subject of several studies and plans over the years. With increasing development in South Jersey and continuing traffic congestion, this is getting more attention. Extension is a topic on the Philadelphia side of the river also, with some thoughts on a new PATCO terminal at 30th Street Station.

Mr. Box will present his insights on these and other topics as he brings us up to date on PATCO's plans for the next few years. He has served as the system's General Manager for the past four years and was the Chief Engineer of PATCO's parent organization, the Delaware River Port Authority, before moving over to the transit agency.

### DIRECTIONS TO WYNDHAM HOTEL:

The Hotel is on NJ Route 73 just east of the New Jersey Turnpike Exit 4.

**From Center City Philadelphia** - take the Ben Franklin Bridge. Follow US 30 and NJ 38 to NJ 73 South. The Hotel is on your left just past the Turnpike interchange. Make a U-turn at the traffic signal at Howard Boulevard (past the Hotel) and return to the Hotel driveway.

**From other areas** - take I-295 from the Walt Whitman Bridge or points north. Take Exit 36 for NJ 73 South and proceed as above. Take the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge from Northeast Philadelphia to NJ 73 South (or the Betsy Ross Bridge from I-95 to NJ 90 to NJ 73 South) and proceed as above.

A map and directions are available at [www.wyndham.com](http://www.wyndham.com).

**"The sciences do not try to explain, they hardly even try to interpret, they mainly make models. By a model is meant a mathematical construct which, with the addition of certain verbal interpretations, describes observed phenomena. The justification of such a mathematical construct is solely and precisely that it is expected to work."**

— John von Neumann

## SECTION WEB SITE!

Our Section's web site has taken on a new look! Check us out at [www.asce-philly.org](http://www.asce-philly.org). Make sure you bookmark this site to check on our latest meetings and events, links and much more! Comments and/or suggestions? Please contact us either via our Electronic Message Hotline at 1-800-461-4190 (24 hours a day) or e-mail at [info@asce-philly.org](mailto:info@asce-philly.org).

### PHILA. SECTION, ASCE OFFICERS 2004-2005

**PRESIDENT**  
Brian A. Stover

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
Christopher J. Menna

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Carol C. Martsof

**SECRETARY**  
Kristen Bowman Kavanagh

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**  
Jennifer Walsh

**TREASURER**  
David C. Hanly

**ASSISTANT TREASURER**  
Mark N. Washington

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**  
Thomas W. Brady

### DIRECTORS

Frank Falcone      Anthony Kelly  
James Markham      Michael D. Petner  
Mark Tiger      Christopher W. Wright  
Gerald Donnelly (Reading Branch)

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Chris L. Rood  
Ruben D. David  
Allan F. Moore, Jr.

### President - Brian A. Stover, P.E.

Senior Vice President  
Urban Engineers, Inc.  
530 Walnut Street, 14th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 922-8080  
Email: [bastover@urbanengineers.com](mailto:bastover@urbanengineers.com)

### Secretary - Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, P.E.

Project Engineer  
Flow Science, Inc.  
1500 Kennedy Blvd.  
2 Penn Center, Suite 200  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
(215) 854-6445  
Email: [kbkavanagh@flowscience.com](mailto:kbkavanagh@flowscience.com)

### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

#### Interim Editor of THE NEWS

Robert Wright

#### Staff Writers

James Markham      Joe Syrnick

### SEND COPY TO:

ASCE News  
P.O. Box 58186, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8186

**COPY DEADLINE FOR  
MARCH '05 ISSUE  
FEBRUARY 18, 2005**

## YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

by James Markham  
Forum Editor

**Alyson Radel Lester, P.E.**  
2004-2005 President

Urban Engineers, Inc.  
530 Walnut Street, 14th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 922-8081  
arlester@urbanengineers.com

The Younger Member Forum (YMF) membership includes college students, recent graduates and young engineers, including Registered Professional Engineers, who are 35 years of age or younger. The objectives of the 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 and be added to the announcement list should contact **John Federico** of Urban Engineers, at secretary @ymfphilly.com or at (215) 922-8081. There are no fees to join!

### Winter Social a Roaring Success!

The YMF once again hosted a very successful Winter Social at McGillin's Old Ale House in Center City on January 13, 2005. Nearly 100 people attended and enjoyed an open bar and buffet. Several people also partook in the annual raffle of prizes donated by many devoted corporate sponsors. In the process funds were raised for donations to **Philabundance** (\$900) and the **Future City Competition** (\$250), which will go toward a Special Award sponsored by the YMF. Once again, the party continued to the very end of our allotted time for the separate room on the second floor, and several people moved the event to the bar downstairs after the "official" time was over. Clearly a good time was had by all. Two photos from the event are shown at the end of this section.

Thank you to YMF Vice President **Jeremy Colello, P.E.** who chaired the event planning committee, and all the other volunteers who made this event such a success. Special thanks also go out to all of the sponsors of the event who enabled us to raise money for two great causes.

### Member Spotlight

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

**Joyce Batcher** is a Senior Structural Engineer with the Philadelphia office of DMJM+HARRIS, Inc. Joyce is currently responsible for several complex structural design projects including work for DRPA on its Ben Franklin Bridge and PATCO rail line. She joined DMJM+HARRIS in 2004, having previously worked in the bridge units of McCormick Taylor, URS and Urban Engineers.

Joyce received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from Drexel University. She is active in the ASCE, Phila. Section's Younger Member Forum and re-

## PM<sup>4</sup>

### (PROFESSOR MALARKEY'S PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRACTICAL METHODS, PITFALLS AND MUSINGS)

*Editor's Note – Section Member Ann Tomalavage has agreed to author a semi-regular column for THE NEWS, appropriately titled "PM<sup>4</sup>." This will offer Ann her chance to share her extensive experience, insight, wit and wisdom on the topic of project management. We hope you will read and enjoy this column and we welcome its addition to THE NEWS.*

*In the spirit of the holidays (not the real Christmas ones, rather the traditional return-the-gift/spend-the-gift-certificate period which closely follows the big day), we offer this information on a weight-challenged, red-suited, jolly Project Manager many of us know quite well. Some of us have even had the chance to sit on his lap and talk to him one-on-one, but we'll bet these discussions didn't involve Project Management!*

## SANTA IS A PROJECT MANAGER!

by Ann M. Tomalavage, P.E., P.M.P.

I'm not sure whether I was browsing through the 10th Sharper Image catalogue of the season—or running my fingers across the cashmere sweaters at Nordstrom—when it hit me: Santa is a Project Manager! Think about it: the holidays are a project. They are temporary (they have a beginning and an end (although it feels longer each year!)), and a unique product (our gifts) or service (our promises to exchange babysitting for housecleaning, or to visit our parents more often) will be the results. And Santa is in charge of it all: he

has to find out what we (his clients) want or need (not necessarily the same thing!), what our budget is, and he has to fit our scope to our budget—always tricky! Santa has to work under an absolutely firm deadline. He also has to manage risks on his project: what if the elves don't make enough Tickle-Me-Ernie's? What if Rudolph's nose isn't so bright? What if it's bright because Rudolph's been slurping the eggnog? Santa also has to figure out what will delight each of us—and work under at least one constraint: who's been naughty?

Santa also has to figure out how to get all his work done on time. I've never been to the North Pole, but in my dreams (call me a geek!), Santa gets his elves together in the first or second quarter each year (at a secret time and place) to plan for the next holiday season. Together they figure out what work needs to be done (scope), they decide who will do what and in what order, how long each task will take, what it costs. They figure out their milestones, they do a Gantt chart (bar chart), and they decide how they will report project status—in short, they plan together. I think the reason Santa never misses a deadline is that he plans each project with his project team. The team has created the plan, so they've bought into it—they own it. The team members know they can count on one another. With visions of milestones dancing in my head, I wish you the best year ever!

Ann M. Tomalavage, P.E., P.M.P.  
President, Malarkey Consulting, Inc.  
(610) 326-0205  
ann@malarkey.us  
www.malarkey.us

cently participated in the 2005 ASCE Northeast Regional Younger Member Council meetings in Hershey, PA. We look forward to her continued involvement.

Joyce enjoys coaching a middle school cheerleading squad and weekend camping trips with her husband Tim. The Batcher's recently explored southern Germany in the Fall of 2004, sampling the brews of Bavaria.



*YMF President Alyson Lester performs an interpretive dance of the Winter Social Raffle, as Jeremy Colello, YMF Vice-President ponders, "Next year, I'll get to do the interpretive dances for the YMF!"*



*Past Section President Tom Branigan (right) remembers that he left the iron on as revelers party on around him. Tom was one of several "honorary" Younger Members for the evening in attendance!*

## REMINDER – AWARDS NOMINATIONS DUE

As noted in the December/January edition of THE NEWS, nominations for the ASCE, Phila. Section's Awards Program for 2005 are now open and will be closing on **Friday, February 11, 2005.**

Please consult the December/January NEWS for details and particulars on this program.

## The LawAce Says...



### WHAT YOUR LAWYER WILL NOT TELL YOU ABOUT REVOCABLE LIVING TRUSTS

Prepared by Mark W.S. Young, Esq.  
myoung@LawAce.net

#### Summary

Few estates will have tax savings from using a trust instead of a will in estate planning. The long unsupervised periods before distribution of assets make trusts very susceptible to embezzlement of assets. The relative ease of modification of a trust makes trusts susceptible to fraud.

Attorney fees for creating a trust will often be much higher than creating a will. When using a trust, people should seriously consider requiring that the trustee be bonded or use a bonded trust company. For simplicity, most attorneys prefer to waive the bond requirement when creating a trust.

#### Modern Trend To Use Trusts

A modern trend in estate planning is to use trusts for smaller estates. Compared to wills, trusts have some advantages but there are a few serious disadvantages. The trusts have many different names, such as Revocable Living Trust and Revocable Living Family Trust.

One advantage of a trust is that you can control your assets after you die. Many people do not want their adult children to receive assets from their estate until later in life. In a few circumstances a trust will reduce estate taxes.

Another advantage of a trust is that a trust is privately administered, without court supervision or a public record. The private administration is attractive to many people because they do not wish their neighbors to know what they own. However, the private nature of trusts makes trusts very susceptible to embezzlement and fraud.

#### Lack of Court Supervision Increases the Risk of Embezzlement

Trusts usually are not supervised by a court or other regulatory agency. In many trusts, the assets sit dormant, out of reach of the beneficiaries for many years.

The long unsupervised periods before distribution make trusts susceptible to embezzlement. Too many times the trustee found the temptation too great, regardless of how trustworthy the person seemed.

#### Higher Risk of Fraud

There is a higher risk of fraud with a trust than with a will because changing a trust is relatively easy. In many states, a trust can be modified with your notarized signature.

Crooks often prey upon sick and elderly people. As an example, a person dying from cancer in the last week of life while heavily medicated with painkillers can sign a document modi-

fying a trust. After the person has passed away, the beneficiaries will have to prove to a court that the deceased person did not know what they were signing.

The crook only needs to get access to the sick person in a hospice and find a corrupt notary to change the trust. In such circumstances, there is also a high risk of embezzlement.

Modifications crooks could make include changing the trustee, removing a co-trustee, redistributing trust assets to other parties, and adding a no-contest provision.

In many states, for a valid will to go through probate requires the signature of four people: the Testator (person making the will) and two unbiased witnesses who do not receive anything under the will. In addition, most wills include a self-proving affidavit, which requires a notary. The self-proving affidavit simplifies probating a will because the witnesses are not required to appear in court in most instances.

Modification of a trust usually requires only two people, where revision to a will requires four people. The two additional people required to modify a will increases the protection of your heirs against fraud. The larger the conspiracy required to defraud an estate, the harder the conspiracy is to perpetrate.

#### Require Bonding of Trustee

To help protect against embezzlement a person can require the trustee be bonded. However, many trusts waive the trustee's requirement to post a bond because the bonds are expensive and difficult to obtain. Bonds tend to be expensive because the insurance companies are well aware of the risks.

People should seriously consider using a bonded trust company. If the costs for a trustee's bond or a bonded trust company's seem too high, the person should consider using a will.

#### Leaving Your Heirs a Nightmare of a Lawsuit

If embezzlement or fraud occurs in a trust, you will likely leave your heirs a nightmare of a lawsuit. Your loved ones will have to cope with the misery due to your death as well with fighting a nightmare of a lawsuit. The lawsuit will be worse if the trust contains a no-contest provision, since this causes a beneficiary who challenges a trust in court to forfeit the beneficiary's share of the trust.

If embezzlement or fraud occurs in your trust, the trustee will use the assets in your trust to fight your heirs in court, until a court formally orders the trustee to stop. If that happens, your heirs will have to spend their own money to try to remove a corrupt trustee and preserve your estate from embezzlement.

#### Trusts Have Few Tax Advantages for Most Estates

The 2001 Tax Act increased the size of estates that escape federal estate tax. In 2004, estates under \$1.5 million pass tax free under a will. In 2006, the tax-free exemption increases to \$2 million. As the tax laws are often changing, you should consult with a licensed professional. Estates larger than the tax-free exemptions may have tax savings from a trust.

#### Conclusion

People planning their estates should make sure they are fully informed of the advantages and disadvantages of creating a trust. For most estates, trusts have few federal inheritance tax advantages compared to wills.

The long unsupervised periods before distribution of assets make trusts susceptible to embezzlement of assets. People who create a trust should seriously consider requiring that a trustee be bonded or use a bonded trust company to minimize the risk of embezzlement. If the costs for bond or trust company are too high, the person should consider using a will.

Prepared by Mark W.S. Young, JD, MBA, BSCE, EIT. Mr. Young is a shareholder of The Young Law Firm, P.C. He is an attorney licensed in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Texas, and the US Patent and Trademark Office. Website: [www.LawAce.net](http://www.LawAce.net) 484-478-0316

Note: The article is designed to provide information regarding the subject matter covered. It is provided with the understanding that the publisher is not engaged in rendering legal or other professional services. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional person should be sought.

## SCHNABEL CITED AS ONE OF BEST CE FIRMS

Schnabel Engineering is pleased to announce that they have been named as one of the "Best Civil Engineering Firms to Work For" by *CE News* magazine. The criteria used to make the selection included mentoring, leadership, professional development training programs, philanthropic/ community involvement, and staff member recognition. More than 12,500 civil engineering employees participated in this year's survey, and firms were judged by a panel of industry experts, professional services firm leaders, and human resources management consultants.

According to **Shanon Fauerbach, P.E.**, editorial director of *CE News*, "These firms are truly the best of the best." Fauerbach adds, "Identifying those firms that are providing a stellar work environment is helping firms re-evaluate their goals and strive to achieve new levels of success."

Schnabel's CEO, **Gordon M. Matheson, Ph.D., P.E., P.G.**, states, "We at Schnabel are proud of this award. It reflects the belief by our employees that we are on the right track in defining our corporate culture and promoting well-balanced workplace practices where professional excellence thrives. We understand that Schnabel's future depends on our ability to serve our clients by creating an inviting workplace to attract and retain quality staff, and we are committed to that goal."

Schnabel offers specialty Geotechnical, Environmental, Dam Engineering, Geoscience and Construction Monitoring Services from 15 offices throughout the eastern U.S. Find us at: [www.schnabel-eng.com](http://www.schnabel-eng.com).

## ORDER OF THE ENGINEER CEREMONY SCHEDULED

The Engineers Club of Philadelphia is proud to announce that **Mr. William Henry, P.E., ASCE National President**, will preside over the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia's initiation ceremony of the Order of the Engineer which will be held on Wednesday, April 27 at 4:30PM at Temple University.

The Order of the Engineer is a solemn obligation to uphold the standards and the dignity of the engineering profession. It is an obligation to turn to practical use the principles of science and the means of technology. The purpose is to stimulate formal public recognition by engineers in the United States of two basic principles. These principles are that:

(1) The primary purpose of engineering is serve the public, and


(2) All members of the engineering profession share a common bond.

Those that have taken the pledge are identified by a stainless steel ring worn on the 5th finger of their working hand.

Candidates for the Order of the Engineer must be graduates from an ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission approved degree program and/or licensed engineers. (This includes seniors about to graduate.) For more information about the Order of the Engineer, please visit <http://www.order-of-the-engineer.org>

The cost to join the Order of the Engineer will be only \$10, which covers the cost of the ring and a certificate recognizing your membership. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided free of charge!

Please direct any questions to **Michael J. McAtee, P.E.**, Director, Engineers Club, at [mjmcatee@urbanengineers.com](mailto:mjmcatee@urbanengineers.com) or by phone at (215) 922-8081, extension 1622.



**McMAHON ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
RESPONSIVE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

**HOT FIRMS**


**Comprehensive Traffic Data Collection**  
Traffic Studies  
Transportation Planning  
Land Survey  
Traffic Signal Design/ITS  
Highway & Intersection Design  
Pavement Design  
Structural Design  
Highway Occupancy/Access Permitting  
Construction Surveillance & Inspection  
Expert Witness Testimony

Corporate Headquarters  
Fort Washington, PA  
215.283.9444

Exton, PA  
610.594.9995

Middletown, PA  
717.985.1700

**www.memtrans.com**



**GeoSystems Consultants, Inc.**  
Engineering, Earth Sciences and  
Geotechnical Laboratory Testing

Craig F. Calabria, Ph.D., P.E.  
Arthur H. Dvinoff, Ph.D., P.E.  
Ram D. Singh, Ph.D., P.E.

514 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Fort Washington, PA 19034  
Telephone: 215-654-9600  
Fax: 215-643-9440

[www.geosystems.com](http://www.geosystems.com)

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS Syrnick Retires, Returns to Work

Joe Syrnick, a fixture in the Philadelphia Section and a past National Director, retired from his position as Chief Engineer and Surveyor for the City of Philadelphia, Department of Streets on December 31. Joe started his career with the Department as a Graduate Engineer in 1970 and rose through the ranks, being appointed as Chief Engineer in 1987. During his tenure, he managed and oversaw numerous City and State highway, transportation and bridge projects in Philadelphia, including numerous award-winning and high-profile efforts, with a total construction value easily exceeding 1 billion dollars. He is an asset and truly will be missed.

The City's loss is the Schuylkill River Development Council's (SRDC) gain, however, as Joe assumed his new position as the Chief Executive Officer of the Council on January 3. Joe will direct a program to enhance the Schuylkill River corridor in the city, with the immediate focus being the "Schuylkill Gateway" in the Center City area. The recently-opened Schuylkill River Park is the first stage of this ambitious program. So, the good news is that we will continue to see Joe around at Section functions and other technical sessions (especially those related to the physics of metal/wood clubs and dimpled balls...?!).

The ASCE, Phila. Section wishes Joe all the best in his new endeavor.

## Section Members Win Delaware Valley Young Engineer Honors

Two ASCE, Phila. Section members were recently named as the co-recipients of the **Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year** honors for 2005.

**James Markham** and **Thomas Brady** will share the honor this year.

Jim is a Project Engineer at Pennoni Associates in University City and serves on the ASCE, Phila. Section's Board of Direction. Tom is employed at Vollmer Associates as a Senior Highway Project Manager in the firm's Kennett Square office and is the ASCE, Phila. Section's Membership Secretary.

We congratulate both Jim and Tom on their honors!

## Dvinoff Elected To Fellow Grade

Dr. Art Dvinoff was recently elected to the ASCE membership grade of Fellow. Art is a principal of GeoSystems Consultants, Inc. of Fort Washington and has been in the practice of geotechnical engineering for 33 years. He has been involved in more than 1800 projects in the area. Art was the Section's Geotechnical Engineer of the Year in 1997. Congratulations, Art!

**"Man is a creative animal, doomed to strive toward a goal, engaged in full-time engineering."**

— *Fyodor Dostoevsky*


## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MEETING PLANNED

The ASCE, Phila. Section's Government Affairs Committtee, chaired by Past President **Ruben David**, is scheduling a meeting with the Honorable **John Perzel**, State Representative from Philadelphia and Speaker of the House, on **Thursday, March 31, 2005** at 4:30 PM.

This event will be free and open to all ASCE, Phila. Section members.

More information on the particulars will be included in the next issue of THE NEWS.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important session with one of our area's most powerful elected officials.



**Nave Newell**  
Where Ideas Get Down To Earth.

SPECIALIZING IN LAND DEVELOPMENT & FACILITIES ENGINEERING SERVICES

Land Planning and Landscape Architecture  
Surveying and Construction Stake Out  
Civil & Structural Engineering

Gregory C. Newell, P.E.  
Principal

357 S. Gulph Road  
Suite 300  
King of Prussia, PA  
610/265-8323

[www.navenewell.net](http://www.navenewell.net)

**Baker**

Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

---

204 Gibraltar Road Suite 120 Horsham, PA 19044 Ph: 215.555.0868	301 College Road East Princeton, NJ 08540 Ph: 609.734.7940	1818 Market Street Suite 3005 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Ph: 215.568.0539
--	--	--

**ChallengeUs.**



**PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC.**  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Corporate Headquarters  
One Drexel Plaza  
3001 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
Ph: 215.222.3000  
Fax: 215.222.0591  
[www.pennoni.com](http://www.pennoni.com)

## PROVIDING ENGINEERING SERVICES IN PENNSYLVANIA SINCE 1966

**Peirce Engineering, Inc.**

*Civil - Construction Engineering*

John J. Peirce, P.E. & Jennifer L. Peirce, P.E.

3736 Stoughton Road, Collegeville, PA 19426  
Phone: (610) 489-1163 Fax: (610) 454-7741  
Email: [PeirceEngr@aol.com](mailto:PeirceEngr@aol.com)



**Karen Jehanian, PE**  
President

p: 610-896-1996      355D Lancaster Avenue  
f: 610-896-8002      Haverford, PA 19041-0157  
e: [kjehanian@kmjinc.com](mailto:kjehanian@kmjinc.com)      [www.kmjinc.com](http://www.kmjinc.com)

## FROM THE ANNALS OF THE SECTION'S HISTORY...

### Commuter Tunnel – Part 2: The People Who Got It Done

In the November installment of this feature, we transported you back to the halcyon days of 1984 and the opening of the Center City Commuter Rail Connection, also known as the Commuter Tunnel. (For simplicity's sake, in this article, we will call it the Tunnel). Apparently, that column jogged some memories, to the extent that a few of you asked us to "name names" of the local firms and Section members who worked on this \$325 million effort. We didn't mention any then, well, because we wanted to highlight the Tunnel's anniversary as a project (and the November timing was significant in that respect) and, mainly, because we needed to do a little more homework!

Having had a little time to do some research, tap some sources and rattle a few brains, we are now in a position to give credit to those who made it happen. We were lucky in this effort to have the assistance of Ruben David, a Past Section President. Ruben was part of the City of Philadelphia design/construction/coordination team for the Tunnel, which was handled by the Architecture and Engineering Division of the City's Department of Public Property. Ruben and this author remembered really, really hard and came up with the following list of firms. This is a veritable "who's who" of engineering firms and contractors. Some no longer exist, while others have changed names. Here they are:

**Consultants** – David Beck, Architect; Chilton Engineering, Inc.; Day & Zimmerman, Inc.; Thomas K. Dyer, Inc.; Gaudet & O'Brien Associates, Inc.; Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff; The Kuljian Corp.; John Milner Associates, Inc.; Parsons Brinckerhoff Construction Services, Inc.; Pennoni Associates, Inc.; Railway Systems Design, Inc.; Sanders & Thomas, Inc.; A.V. Smith Engineering Co.; Urban Engineers, Inc.

**Contractors** – Buckley Co./Conduit and Foundation (Joint Venture); Buckline Corp.; Carr & Duff; Tony DePaul & Son; Driscoll Construction Co.; General Railway Signal; Goldfarb Co., Inc.; Robert Hawthorne; Kaufman/Buckley/Conduit Tel-Stock (Joint Venture); Peter Kiewit & Sons; Ben Magness, Inc.; Mergentine/Morrison-Knudsen/J.F. White (Joint Venture); Nucero Corp.; Otis Elevator Co.; W.V. Pangborne; Peabody & Wind; Ross-Araco Corp.; Seravalli, Inc.; Slattery Associates.

On a project this big, lots of people are involved. Many, many Phila. Section members had a hand in the various aspects and segments of the complex project that the Tunnel was. All of these members who played key roles in the planning, design, construction, project management/inspection, and operational logistics of the Tunnel deserve recognition. Several key players are listed below. Some of these names will sound familiar. There are a few ASCE, Phila. Section officers and Civil Engineers of the Year in this crowd — maybe for a reason?

**City of Philadelphia** – Ashfaq Ahmed, Bob Belfi, Ruben David, Bernie Goldentyer, Mike Griffin, Bruno Talvacchia

**SEPTA** – Chuck Stanford, George Stanley

**Consultants** – Ed D'Alba, Tom Halterman, Bob Koerner, Joe McAtee, Bill Thomsen, Vukan Vuchic

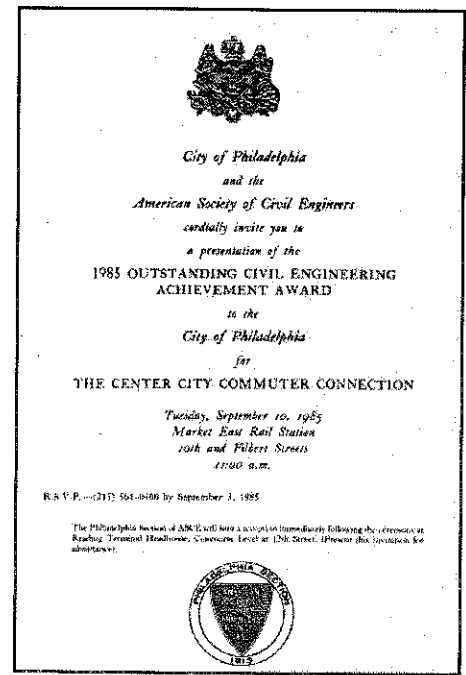
**Contractors** – Bob Buckley, Frank Depman, Joe Finston

The local ceremony at which the Outstanding Engineering Achievement plaque was presented to the City was held on September 10, 1985. ASCE National President Richard Karn and District 4 Director Dave Van Horn were there to present the award, which was accepted by a group of dignitaries which included Mayor W. Wilson Goode, Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation Thomas Larson, and SEPTA Board Chairman Lewis Gould. Local representatives included ASCE National Vice President Chuck Pennoni, and Section President Ira Pierce.

The invitation sent for the dedication ceremony is shown at the top of this column. It's hard to believe this was almost 20 years ago, but it was.

The Phila. Section's Committee which put this event (and its commemorative program) together was chaired by Bruno Talvacchia, with Dave Barr, Frank Depman, John Durrant, Chuck Pennoni, Ira Pierce, Sid Robin, George Stanley, Joe Syrnick and Ken Zitomer assisting. The youthful (then as now?!) team of Ruben David and Bob Wright helped with setting up, obtaining plaques for all participating firms, and doing the usual unheralded behind-the-scenes duties for the ceremony!

Obviously, we don't recall everyone who worked on the Tunnel. We know there were far more than we listed above, and we are proud to say that our Section was intrinsically entwined and heavily represented in the many facets of this major effort. If we missed anyone, please let us know and we'll note this oversight in future editions of THE NEWS.



## WORD CORNER OR WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND

This was originally published in the *New Jersey State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Newsletter*, Winter 2004 edition. We thought we'd share it with you.

Every student of math, engineering and surveying knows that there are 360 degrees in a circle. But why is this? What is a degree and why are there 360 of them? Where did 360 come from?

The ancient Egyptians, over 4000 years ago, selected the number 360 as it represented the number of solar days in their calendar. To maintain the accuracy of the calendar, an error factor of 5 additional days was later added.

The symbol used to designate degrees, °, which continues to be used to this day, is an ancient pictograph for the sun.

Digital Reprographics  
Document Management  
Facilities Management

**Service Point**  
Formerly Charrette ProGraphics

**John Deary** Regional Manager

1321 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
Tel (215) 567-0777  
Fax (215) 567-9588  
jdeary@servicepointusa.com  
servicepointusa.com

Program Management, Project Management, Construction  
Management and Construction Claims Services

**HILL**

**Hill International**

Michael V. Griffin, P.E.  
Senior Vice President  
One Penn Square West  
30 South 15th Street  
Suite 1300  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
Tel: 215-557-3250  
www.hillintl.com

**Tim Haabs**

ENGINEER, ARCHITECT

Parking Planning & Design

Timothy Haabs & Associates, Inc.  
350 Township Line Road, Suite 110  
Blue Bell, PA 19422

610.342.0200 ext. 103  
610.342.0222 fax

TIMOTHY H. HAABS, P.E.  
President

timhaabs@timhaabs.com  
www.timhaabs.com



**ANG ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Consulting Engineers/Construction Managers

Design and Construction Services for:  
Public and Private Facilities; Transportation;  
Institutional; Educational; Industrial;  
Commercial and Residential Projects

Penn Treaty Park Place Bldg. Tel: (215) 427-8700  
1341 N. Delaware Ave., Suite 500 Fax: (215) 427-8710

a mentor/protégé partner of CSA Group  
www.csagroup.com

## 2005 ENGINEERS WEEK - IT'S HERE!

This is a reminder that the 2005 celebration of Engineers Week will take place from **Friday, February 18, 2005 to Saturday, February 26, 2005.**

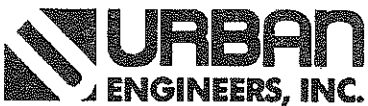
Engineers Week's activities will kick off with the Proclamation Luncheon at the Union League on **Friday, February 18, 2005**, with the 2005 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year, Donald Dalessandro, as the guest of honor.

The 2005 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year will be cited at the Young Engineer dinner on **Wednesday, February 23, 2005**, at the McCall Country Club in Upper Darby.

The culmination of the Week's events, the Engineers Week Banquet, will take place at Villanova University's Conference Center on **Saturday, February 26.** Numerous award winners and projects will be recognized, including the Engineer of the Year, the Young Engineer of the Year, the Outstanding Engineering Achievements in the Delaware Valley, the Outstanding Math Teachers, Student Paper Contest winners, Scholarship recipients, and the winners of the local Future City Competition.

Please consult the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council's website, [www.dvewc.org](http://www.dvewc.org), for more details and information on prices and reservations for these events.

The Phila. Section, ASCE is well represented on the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council, which coordinates Engineers Week activities locally.



**URBAN ENGINEERS, INC.**  
**CIVIL ENGINEERING MULTIDISCIPLINARY FIRM**  
 530 Walnut Street, 14th Floor | Philadelphia, PA 19106  
 p 215-922-8080 | 215-922-8082 | 800-232-4596  
 Founded 1960 ■ ISO 9001 CERTIFIED ■ Employee-Owned  
 Voted one of "Best Places to Work" in PA  
[www.urbanengineers.com](http://www.urbanengineers.com)



**TANTALA ASSOCIATES**  
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
[www.TANTALA.com](http://www.TANTALA.com)

4903 FRANKFORD AVENUE  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124-2617

T: 215.289.4600  
 F: 215.288.1885  
 E: mail@tantala.com

civil engineering  
 structural  
 geotechnical  
 site development  
 risk management




**McCormick & Taylor**  
 Engineers & Planners  
 Since 1946

Two Commerce Square, 2001 Market Street, 10th Floor  
 Philadelphia, PA 19103  
 Phone: 215-592-4200 • Fax: 215-592-0682  
[www.mccormicktaylor.com](http://www.mccormicktaylor.com)

## INTERESTED IN ENVIRONMENTAL & WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING?

The Philadelphia Section, ASCE is gauging interest in initiating an Environmental and Water Resources Technical Group. This group would work alongside the current technical groups (Construction, Structural, Transportation, Engineering Management, and DVGI) with a focus on environmental and water resources issues. Borrowing the vision of ASCE's Environmental and Water Resources Institute, this technical group will be tasked with the integration of the technical expertise and public policy into the planning, design, construction and operation of environmentally sound and sustainable infrastructure impacting air, land, and water resources. Specifically, this group will focus on how these issues impact the Delaware Valley and neighboring areas. If you are interested in participating in this group, have ideas on possible speakers and topics, or would like additional information, please contact **Jeremy Colello** at (215) 222-3000 x3514 or [jcoello@pennoni.com](mailto:jcoello@pennoni.com).




**ZENgineering**  
 2000+ cost. Prevent failures. Achieve your vision.  
 ENR  
 NTN Consultants, Ltd.  
 Infrastructure Engineering and Environmental Services  
 610.524.2300  
[www.nthconsultants.com](http://www.nthconsultants.com)



**TAYLOR WISEMAN & TAYLOR**

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IN ALL OFFICES  
 MARK S. MAYHEW, PE Regional Manager Chalfont, PA 267-956-1020  
 ROBERT MC ANALLY, PE Regional Manager West Chester, PA 610-918-9200  
[www.taylorwiseman.com](http://www.taylorwiseman.com)

ENGINEERING • SURVEYING • PLANNING  
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
 SUBSURFACE UTILITY ENGINEERING




**WJE** ENGINEERS ARCHITECTS MATERIALS SCIENTISTS [www.wje.com](http://www.wje.com)

**Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.**

- Structural Evaluation
- Building Envelope Assessment
- Repair Design
- Construction Materials Evaluation
- Historic Preservation
- Litigation Support
- Failure Investigation
- Structural Testing & Instrumentation

14 Washington Road, Suite 501, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550-1013  
 Phone: 609.799.7799 Fax: 609.799.7088



**OUR 100 YEAR EPHENRY**  
 Kevin Earley  
 RETAINING WALL SPECIALISTS  
 FOUNDED 1904

16 ANDERSON RD. PARKER FORD, PA 19457  
 610-495-8533 u 800-44henry ext. 321 u FAX 610-495-1966  
[www.ephenny.com](http://www.ephenny.com) email: [kearley@ephenny.com](mailto:kearley@ephenny.com)

## SPONSOR PROFILE - PENNONI ASSOCIATES

Pennoni Associates Inc. has supported the Philadelphia Section of ASCE for 38 years and is proud to continue in its support of this important organization in 2005. Pennoni Associates founder and current ASCE Foundation President **C. R. "Chuck" Pennoni, P.E.** encourages active involvement in ASCE and says that, "Participation in ASCE offers Engineers the opportunity to stay current with new technologies and to broaden their network of contacts in the Civil Engineering and related communities."

Pennoni Associates' President and CEO, **Anthony S. Bartolomeo, P. E.** stated that Pennoni plays a key role in shaping the very fabric of Philadelphia. Whether it is through the Engineering design work associated with high profile office towers like the Comcast Center and the Cira Centre, recreational facilities like Fairmount Park and the Citizens Bank Park ball field, infrastructure improvements such as the miles of new sewers designed throughout Philadelphia, or the recently completed modernization of the traffic signals on Washington Avenue, Pennoni Associates is playing an integral role in forging the future of the Philadelphia region. Echoing Mr. Pennoni's support for ASCE, Mr. Bartolomeo stated, "We plan to continue to actively participate in the engineering community and the community at-large as our firm grows within the greater Philadelphia region".

Pennoni Associates was founded in Philadelphia in 1966 and has developed into a multi-disciplinary firm serving clients throughout the Northeast. While the firm has grown to include 14 regional offices housing over 600 employees, the Philadelphia region is home to its corporate headquarters and is still a primary focus of the firm's business.




**Valley Forge Laboratories, Inc.**

Construction Services  
 Environmental Engineering  
 Geotechnical Engineering  
 Traffic Engineering

6 Berkeley Road - Devon, PA 19333  
 610.688.8517 • fax 610.688.8143  
[www.valleyforge labs.com](http://www.valleyforge labs.com)

ROBERT J. GUTHRIE, P.E., P.P.  
 VICE President



**SCHOOR DEPALMA**  
 Engineers and Consultants

1700 Market Street, Suite 1005  
 Philadelphia, PA 19103-3914  
 TEL: 215.972.8100 FAX: 215.972.8181  
[www.schoordepalma.com](http://www.schoordepalma.com) [rguthrie@schoordepalma.com](mailto:rguthrie@schoordepalma.com)



**DREXEL UNIVERSITY**  
 Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering

Part-Time and Full-Time Graduate Study  
 (funding available for full-time study)

Structural Engineering  
 Geotechnical Engineering  
 Architectural Engineering  
 Environmental Engineering

Geosynthetics  
 Infrastructure Systems  
 Hydraulics, Hydrology & Water Resources

**Dr. Charles Haas**  
 Head, Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering  
[haascn@drexel.edu](mailto:haascn@drexel.edu)

**Dr. Patricia Gallagher**  
 Graduate Advisor  
 (215) 895-6426  
[pmg24@drexel.edu](mailto:pmg24@drexel.edu)

## JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

Wednesday, January 19, 2005

Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge PA

### "Happenings on the Schuylkill"

by James Markham, Staff Writer

Once a year, the Philadelphia Section of ASCE and the Delaware Valley Section of ASHE have a Joint Meeting that is generally the best attended event that either group sponsors all year. This year, some poorly-timed snowfall tested the resolve of the devotees of this meeting. In the end, there were a lot of people who simply could not make it to the meeting, but the event was still very well attended, and everyone could talk about the weather at the cocktail hour and mean it!

After the cocktail hour, **John Zarsky, P.E.**, President of the Delaware Valley Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE), and ASCE, Section President **Brian Stover, P.E.** opened the formal portion of the meeting with a few announcements. **Bob Wright, P.E.**, Past Section President and Delaware Valley Section ASHE Board Member, then introduced the featured presenter of the evening **Joe Syrnick, P.E.**, the Chief Executive Officer of the Schuylkill River Development Corporation (SRDC).

Mr. Syrnick began by giving the audience an overview of SRDC. It is a small agency created to guide the redevelopment of the tidal Schuylkill River (the eight mile portion of the river that is affected by the tides), which extends from Fairmount Dam (adjacent to the historic Water Works) to the Schuylkill's mouth, where it meets the Delaware River. SRDC's vision is the creation of a "River City", in which the tidal Schuylkill River is integrated into the urban fabric of the city, much like several European cities.

Mr. Syrnick described the four measures by which the success of SRDC's vision can be measured:

- *Increased access and connections to the river* — Today it is hard to get to the River, with the Schuylkill Expressway on one side and freight train lines on the other side. Mr. Syrnick noted that "Schuylkill" is a Dutch word which means hidden river, but at the time of its naming the obstructions were dense woods and overgrowth, as opposed to the man-made obstacles of the present day.
- *Increased riverfront attractions and destinations* — European cities do this well, and it is what American cities including Philadelphia should be doing to set themselves apart from their suburban neighbors.
- *Increased market-driven development* — Infrastructure improvements must be achieved through public-private partnerships, but ultimately market driven improvements must be implemented for the tidal Schuylkill River to be fully revitalized.
- *Improved physical conditions* — As in other sections of Philadelphia, the tidal Schuylkill River area fronts on numerous former industrial sites that are now abandoned brownfields. Development in these areas is necessary to improve the physical conditions along the river.

Mr. Syrnick described some of the recently completed projects, including the new Schuylkill River Park, and the Left Bank Apartment brownfield redevelopment project. Some under-



Delaware Valley Section ASHE President (and ASCE, Phila. Section Member) John Zarsky welcomes the meeting's speaker, Joe Syrnick.

takings are in progress, such as the Cira Centre at 30th Street Station and a new residential building at Race Street. Additionally, there are many planned efforts, including the southward extension of the Schuylkill River Park to the new South Street bridge (to be constructed in 2007), new recreational docks on the river itself, and a monumental square between 30th Street Station and the 30th Street Post Office building. Mr. Syrnick had many vibrant slides and was armed with a plethora of data and statistics to support his discussion of the various projects.

Mr. Syrnick concluded his presentation by reminding the attendees of the benefits of redeveloping the tidal Schuylkill River basin. Besides the economic benefits, these included the retention of our young people by promoting recreation and tourism opportunities and building and retaining vibrant communities within the urban core of Philadelphia.

After a brief question and answer period, Presidents Zarsky and Stover thanked Mr. Syrnick and gave him a few tokens of our appreciation.

To learn more about the SRDC and plans for the tidal Schuylkill River visit <http://srdc.net/schuylkill>.

## MEET THE ASCE, PHILA. SECTION'S OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS

Here is information on some of the ASCE, Phila. Section's Officers for the 2004-05 season. More will follow in upcoming editions of THE NEWS.

### Carol C. Martsof, P.E., Vice President

Carol is a Project Engineer with Urban Engineers, Inc., a position she has held for the past two years. She has a total of twelve years of transportation engineering experience. She is a graduate of Temple University and is an extremely active participant in numerous professional, community and charitable organizations. She recently was elected to serve as the Vice President of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS). She and her daughter, Catherine, live in Lansdowne.

### Anthony J. Kelly, AIA, P.E., Director

Tony is the Director of Facilities Services and Construction Management at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He has extensive experience

at consulting engineering and architectural firms where he was responsible for the management, and design of many large and significant institutional, commercial and corporate facilities. He has been recognized for professional achievements in the design and project management of facilities around the world. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture from Lehigh University and Master's Degrees from Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania.

### Mark J. Tiger, P.E., Director

Mark is a Project Manager for DMJM Aviation in the firm's Philadelphia office. His airport experience began as a co-op student for the City of Philadelphia's Division of Aviation at Philadelphia International Airport in 1986. He has 19 years experience in the planning, design, and construction of airfield infrastructure, and landside and airside facilities. Mark is a 1990 graduate of Drexel University with a B.S. in Civil Engineer-

ing, and is a registered Professional Engineer in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He and his wife Barbara, and their children Caitlin and Joseph, reside in Holland

### Chris L. Rood, P.E., Past President

Chris is an Associate Vice President with the Architectural and Engineering firm of DMJM+HARRIS, Inc. He is assigned to the firm's Rail/Transit Division. He recently completed his assignment as Construction Manager on New Jersey Transit's Southern New Jersey Light Rail Transit Project (River LINE). He is presently DMJM+HARRIS, Inc.'s Project Manager on a Construction Management effort on Amtrak's Fire and Life Safety Program in New York City. Chris has been with DMJM+HARRIS, Inc. for 4.5 years. Prior to that Chris worked for SEPTA for 13 years and Amtrak for 10 years.

Chris, his wife, Tamara and daughter, Rachel reside in Collegeville.



## SCIENCE FAIRS COMING UP!

The Delaware Valley Science Fairs will be conducted on **Wednesday, April 6, 2005** at the Fort Washington Expo Center. The ASCE, Phila. Section will once again participate in the Fairs and offer four Special Awards for projects that have a Civil Engineering theme, with two awards for Grades 6 through 8 and two for Grades 9 through 12.

Judges are needed for this effort. The judging will require you to spend your day (approximately 8 am to 3 pm) at the Fairs, examining and short listing possible projects in the morning and then interviewing the students who assembled them and finalizing the selections in the afternoon. It is a very interesting experience to say the least.

If you are interested in being a Special Awards judge for the Section please contact **Chris L. Rood** at [chris.rood@dmjmharris.com](mailto:chris.rood@dmjmharris.com).

You will also need to register for this and this can be done through the Fairs' website [www.dvsf.org](http://www.dvsf.org). For more information on the Fairs please visit the above website.

We hope you can join us for this!

## GET YOUR NEWS ELECTRONICALLY!

You can get THE NEWS on your computer, directly via e-mail, and all you have to do is ask!

Over 200 of your fellow Section members have chosen the electronic version of THE NEWS since this service began a few years ago. If you select the e-mail option, you can get THE NEWS sent to the computer of your choice (home, work, wherever) and therefore will see it about a week before the mailed copy might reach your mailbox.

You can also choose to get THE NEWS in both formats (hard copy and e-mail) if you prefer.

If you would like more information or would like to enroll in the e-mail list, please contact us through the Section website, our electronic message hotline, or via "snail mail" through our Post Office Box.

## Technical Group Activities

(Continued from Page 1)

### Delaware Valley Geoinstitute (DVGI)


#### February Meeting/Student Night

**DATE: Tuesday, February 22, 2005 • Social Hour – 5:30 PM; Dinner – 6:30 PM; Student Presentations – 7:15 PM**

**LOCATION:** Drexel University (call below for specific location)

**CONTACT:** Ms. Cindy Bruce at (610) 524-6762 by Friday, February 18, 2005

**COST:** \$30 / \$5 for students



Civil/Site Design  
Traffic / ITS  
Transit & Community Planning  
Transportation Design

GANNETT FLEMING, INC.  
Engineers and Planners  
Phone: 215 557 0106  
Fax: 215 557 0337

Suite 2020  
1515 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

## SECTION HUMPHREY FUND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section is pleased to announce the availability of the following types of undergraduate scholarships for 2005. Scholarships will be awarded at our Annual Spring Social/Dinner-Dance on **Friday, May 6**.

### Type of Award

We recognize that the different colleges have differences in the regulations as to scholarships, stipends and awards. It is the Philadelphia 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. No two scholarships will be awarded to the same student.

### Student Chapter Scholarship

It is anticipated that two scholarships will be awarded. 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.

### Eligibility Requirements

- The student must be matriculating in a full-time Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program in one of the six colleges which have Student Chapters in the Philadelphia Section (Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, Temple University, Villanova University or Widener University).
- The student must be an active participant in the ASCE Student Chapter.
- Students in their sophomore and junior year (and Pre-Juniors at Drexel) are eligible to submit.

### Section Member Scholarship

One scholarship will be awarded.

### Eligibility Requirements

- The student must be the child of an active Philadelphia Section member.
- The student must be matriculating in a full-time Civil Engineering or Architectural Engineering program at an accredited college or university.
- The student must be an active participant in the ASCE Student Chapter at his/her school.
- Students in their sophomore and junior year are eligible to submit.

### Submission

The candidate will be required to submit an essay, limited to 1,000 words, on a topic to be determined.

The candidate's name, GPA and/or class rank and an address/telephone number 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.

A recommendation letter from the candidate's faculty advisor is not required but is strongly suggested.

For the Section Member Scholarship ONLY, a second letter of recommendation from a faculty member of the candidate's civil engineering program (other than his/her advisor), or a present or past employer, is required.

### Section Evaluation

The Section Scholarship Committee will evaluate all nominations and select award recipients for scholarships or other form of stipend.

Awardees will be invited guests at our Annual Spring Social/Dinner Dance to receive their awards and will be asked to participate in future ASCE educational outreach activities.

### Submission Deadline

Submissions should be directed to Christopher Menna, PE, President-Elect Scholarship Committee Philadelphia Section ASCE P.O. Box 58186 Philadelphia, PA 19102-8186

The deadline for submissions is **Friday, March 25, 2005**. The President-Elect will forward all submissions to the ASCE, Phila. Section's Scholarship Committee for review and final determinations.

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

The Section Sponsorship continues to be a success. A total of 27 local firms have taken part in the program so far this season. The Section extends its collective "thank you" to our sponsors for their commitment and continued support of the Section.

There are several benefits available to you as a Section Sponsor. For a low annual fee, you too can be a part of this program and have your business card appear in each edition of THE NEWS, among other perks. You may have seen the cards of those who have decided to become Section Sponsors for the current season throughout this edition. If your firm is not in this esteemed group, and you would like to become a sponsor, this is the time to consider it.

For information on the program, please contact our Interim Editor, **Bob Wright (215-686-5538 or [robert.wright@phila.gov](mailto:robert.wright@phila.gov))**.

## HAVE AN ARTICLE? SEND IT IN!

THE NEWS welcomes articles, submissions, photos and just about anything that can be printed if you think it would be of benefit to the Section membership. If you have something you would like to share in these pages, please contact the Interim Editor about it.

**"If it can't be expressed in figures, it is not science; it is opinion."**

— Lazarus Long

## JOIN THE SECTION'S TECHNICAL GROUPS

### Construction

*Brian Stover, P.E., Acting Chairman*

Urban Engineers, Inc.  
530 Walnut St., 14th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 922-8080

### Structural

*Dr. Mohiuddin (Ali) Khan, P.E., Chairman*

Manager, Bridge Division  
STV Incorporated  
820 Bear Tavern, Suite 105  
Trenton, NJ 08628  
(609) 530-9618

### Transportation

*William T. Thomsen, P.E., Acting Chairman*

Urban Engineers Inc.  
530 Walnut St., 14th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 922-8080

### Engineering Management

*Dennis M. MacBride, P.E., Co-Chairman*

SEPTA  
1234 Market Street, 12th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(215) 580-3404

*William J. Mulloy, P.E., Co-Chairman*

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Wanamaker Building  
106 Penn Square East  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390  
(215) 656-6583

### Delaware Valley Geo Institute (DVGI)

*Allen Cadden, P.E., Chairman*

Schnabel Engineering Associates, Inc.  
510 East Gay Street  
West Chester, PA 19380  
(610) 696-6066

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& CIVIL ENGINEERING

CELEBRATING OUR  
100TH ANNIVERSARY  
IN 2005!

**THE RATSEP GROUP, INC.**

LINDA A. RATSEP, P.E.  
PRINCIPAL  
CIVIL/ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

4 Chester County Comments Phone: 610-695-8900  
Malvern, PA 19355 Fax: 610-647-1050  
www.ratsepgroup.com E-mail: info@ratsepgroup.com

**DMJM**  
Aviation

Planning • Design • Environmental  
Program & Construction Management • Specialty Services

1700 Market Street - Suite 1700 • Philadelphia PA 19103  
Tel: 215-399-4300 • Fax: 215-399-4350  
E-mail: www.dmjmaaviation.com  
AN AFECOM COMPANY

## ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2004-2005 SEASON

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!** Please keep in mind that this information, as always, is to the best of our knowledge at press time, but it is also TENTATIVE and subject to future change.

**ALL DINNER MEETINGS** (except as noted): Cocktails – 5:30 pm; Dinner – 6:30 pm; Meeting – 7:30 pm. All dinner and/or luncheon meetings have discounted prices for students. In addition, all are welcome to attend meetings without having the meal, at no charge.

**Thursday, April 21, 2005**

**Philadelphia International Airport Expansion • Union League**

**Friday, May 6, 2005**

**The Annual Spring Social and Dinner Dance • Location to be determined**

## DILBERT'S RULES OF THE WORKPLACE

Just like Murphy has his Laws, Dilbert, one of our most famous brethren, has his own Rules of the Workplace. Here they are for your edification.

If you can't get your work done in the first 24 hours, work nights.

A pat on the back is only a few centimeters from a kick in the butt.

Don't be irreplaceable — if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

It doesn't matter what you do, it only matters what you say you've done and what you're going to do.

After any salary raise, you will have less money at the end of the month than you did before.

The more stuff you put up with, the more stuff you're going to get.

You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.

Eat one live toad the first thing in the morning and nothing worse will happen to you the rest of the day.

When the bosses talk about improving productivity, they are never talking about themselves.

If at first you don't succeed, try again, then quit — no use being a fool about it.

There will always be beer cans rolling on the floor of your car when the boss asks for a ride home from the office.

Keep your boss' boss off your boss' back.

## NOMINATIONS FOR SECTION OFFICES NOW OPEN

In accordance with the Constitution and By-laws of the ASCE, Phila. Section, President **Brian Stover** will shortly be appointing the Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of officers for all ASCE, Phila. Section elective offices for the 2005-06 administrative year.

The positions which will be open for nominees are the following:

- President Elect
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Membership Secretary
- Director (3 positions)

The deadline for nominations is **Friday, April 1, 2005**. Any nomination should be submitted to the Section's Secretary, **Kristen Bowman Kavanagh**, whose contact information is given on page 2.

THE **Burns** GROUP  
Engineering and Construction

**Solutions**  
That Build Your  
**Future**

Philadelphia, PA    Pittsburgh, PA    Wilmington, DE  
Edison, NJ    McLean, VA    Phoenix, AZ  
www.burnsgroup.com

## THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

You could be looking at your business card in this space instead of this notice. Your card could be here among those of your colleagues and competitors. If you would like to be a Section Sponsor, please contact **Interim Editor Bob Wright** at (215) 686-5538.

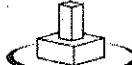
T/P/D **TRAFFIC PLANNING AND DESIGN, INC.**

**HIGHWAY DESIGN  
STRUCTURE DESIGN  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

2500 East High St., Ste. 650  
Pottstown, PA 19464  
(610) 326-3100  
Fax: 326-9410

T/P/D@TrafficPD.com  
www.TrafficPD.com

Lehigh Valley, PA  
Harrisburg, PA



**Geostructures**

Phone: 610.688.7066  
Fax: 610.688.7065  
www.geostructures.net

**GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS**

- Subsurface Investigations
- Slope & Retaining Wall Design
- Geosynthetics Design
- Phase 1 & 2 Site Assessments
- Construction Monitoring
- Foundation Evaluations/Design
- Soil Stabilization
- Geologic Exploration/Mapping
- Sinkhole Assessment/Remedy
- Geotechnical Lab Testing

985 Old Eagle School Road, Suite 502, Wayne, PA 19087