

the news



**PHILADELPHIA SECTION
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The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE

Vol. 78-4

Our 93rd Year

December 2005/January 2006

JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers,
Reading Branch, American Society of Civil Engineers, and
Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2006

Radisson Hotel, Valley Forge, 1st Avenue and Gulph Road, Valley Forge, PA
Cocktails 6:00 PM • Dinner 7:00 PM • Meeting Presentation 8:00 PM

SUBJECT: The Pennsylvania Turnpike/I-95 Interchange

SPEAKERS: Donald S. Klingensmith, Project Manager, Pennsylvania Turnpike and Joseph F. (Jay) Roth, P.E., Program Manager, Edwards & Kelcey

The Pennsylvania Turnpike/Interstate 95 Interchange Project will directly connect two major highways in the Delaware Valley. The Turnpike was completed through to the New Jersey Turnpike Connector in 1956 and I-95 was opened in this area in 1969. While I-95 crosses the Turnpike, the two have never had a direct interchange/connection. Under the proposed \$800 million effort, this will finally happen. This project will reduce congestion on local Bucks County roadways as well as improve the flow of traffic in the region and along the entire Northeast Corridor. Alternatives were explored in the early 1970's that would provide this connection on a

Continued on Page 7

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 23, 2006

Wyndham Hotel, Mount Laurel, 1111 Route 73, Mount Laurel, NJ
Cocktails 6:00 PM • Dinner 6:30 PM • Meeting Presentation 7:30 PM

SUBJECT: The Cherokee Development

SPEAKER: Brian McPeak, Project Manager, Cherokee Northeast LLC

The continuing development of riverfront property along the Delaware River has extended to the New Jersey side. Current proposals call for a major redevelopment of portions of the waterfront in the Cramer Hill neighborhood in northeast Camden, as well as the Delair section of Pennsauken and Petty's Island. These concepts will result in hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of investment in residential properties and new supporting infrastructure. In part, the recent opening of the NJ Transit River LINE has illustrated the value of these areas and spurred this activity. Mr. McPeak will bring us up to date on this exciting and controversial program.

TECHNICAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Delaware Valley Geo-Institute Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, February 21, 2006

The DVGI February Dinner Meeting will be "Student Night" and will be hosted by the University of Pennsylvania, sponsored by Penn's Department of Earth and Environmental Science. This will be held on **Tuesday, February 21, 2006**. Four speakers (one each from Drexel, Villanova, Penn, and Delaware) are currently scheduled. **Bob Wright** (Penn Grad and Editor of THE NEWS) will give the keynote address.

OPENINGS FOR REGION 2 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section, in conjunction with the ASCE Region 2 Formation Team, is seeking qualified candidates for nomination to the Region 2 Board of Governors. Region 2 is the newly formed District which will govern over the Pennsylvania (4 Sections), Maryland, Delaware and National Capital Sections. There will be six transitional positions available in two 1-year, two 2-year and two 3-year terms beginning in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Please specify which term you will be applying for in your application.

Candidates shall submit the following documentation in electronic format to **Christopher Menna** for submission to the nominating committee by **January 13, 2006**.

- A one page letter of interest and commitment.
- A professional resume of no more than three pages.
- A letter of nomination or endorsement.
- A statement that they meet the minimum requirements, including ASCE Member Number, Address of Record, Section or Branch offices and committees you have held, National Committee assignments and other ASCE service.
- A recent passport photo type photograph suitable for publication.

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section welcomes this opportunity for its members to participate at the new regional level of ASCE. Serving at this level will also allow for interaction with other ASCE Sections and National committees. For additional information, please contact ASCE, Phila. Section President **Christopher Menna** via the contact information in the inside cover of THE NEWS.

**HERE'S HOPING YOU ENJOYED YOUR
CHRISTMAS/HANUKKAH*...
AND BEST WISHES FOR 2006!**

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE wish all the best to our Members and their Families and Friends for a good New Year, and we hope that your holiday season is safe, memorable and enjoyable.

(* or whatever special day/time you celebrate!)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The past month has been a busy one! Some key thanks are in order. First, I would like to thank our Secretary, **Kristen Bowman Kavanagh**, for taking the lead in getting the annual report in on time to National. Second, I would like to thank **Carol Martsoff** and **David Hanly** for all of their hard work concerning the SPAG grants. I am proud to say that we have received \$4000.00 to assist with the costs of the following major projects this year: City Hall NHCEL Plaque and Dedication Ceremony, ASCE/Engineers Week Banners on Broad Street (you'll see them up in

February), and the first-ever Civil Engineering Landmark Guide for Philadelphia. This assistance is a firm sign from National that we have their approval and support in our ongoing efforts to promote our industry. Likewise, the monies will also help to lessen the financial burden on our budget. Yes, we sometimes do get more for our dues payments! Lastly, I'd like to thank the efforts of our new Treasurer, **Joe Platt**. Learning the ropes of Treasurer is not easy. Joe — you've been great so far, and you have a good teacher.

Now, I would like to report on recent happenings that are of concern to our ASCE, Phila. Section.

Our own Structural Technical Group Chair, **Ali Khan**, has recently joined a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) team, bound for Pakistan. His expertise will help this country rebound from future seismic events.

I also call to your attention a Pennsylvania lawsuit mentioned in the October 2005 issue of *Civil Engineering*. "One of the most important legal decisions for design professionals to consider this year is that in *Bilt-Rite Contractors, Inc. v. The Architecture Studio*, in which the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania found an exception to the 'economic loss doctrine' and allowed a general contractor to sue an architect directly for negligence because additional costs were incurred as a result of defective plans, drawings, and specifications. Because of this ruling, design professionals in Pennsylvania may now be exposed to contractor claims for delay, extra work, disruption, or any increased construction costs caused by design errors or omissions." Let's all be mindful of this landmark case in our ever-changing industry.

As stated last time, our Section has pledged to assist District 4 in the formulation of the first-ever, Pennsylvania Infrastructure Report Card. District 4 was successful in obtaining \$7500.00 for the report card. I am still looking for a few interested members and non-members alike that would like to help in this effort. The commitment would be for about six months. Please contact me, if interested. Regarding the Region 2 Formation process, all Sections are on board, except for Delaware. Some additional communications are necessary to ensure that our neighbor's concerns are being addressed. The formation team is finalizing its governing documents now and will be forwarding them to National in early 2006. The formation team is looking for qualified candidates for Governor. For more information about this opportunity, please see the separate ad in this issue of THE NEWS.

Please also visit the PSPE website at www.pspe.org and review the proposed legislation for continuing education. The Senate Bill of interest is No. 655 of the year 2005. In sum, the proposal is for 24 professional development hours (PDH's) in a biennial period, where eligible PDH's can be earned in a number of ways.

I sincerely wish everyone a happy holiday season and I look forward to seeing all of you in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Christopher J. Menna, P.E.
President - Philadelphia Section, ASCE

DON'T FORGET ABOUT YOUR DUES!

If you haven't already done so, please don't forget to pay your ASCE and Philadelphia Section dues for 2006. Your dues are vital to the support of the Section's activities (and, of course, if you don't pay your Section dues, you won't be getting THE NEWS in your mailbox on a regular basis!). We appreciate your ongoing support.



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DO YOU HAVE BIG IDEAS?

If you do, the "New" Construction Technical Group is looking for a few good persons to join us in planning and conducting educational and networking events that can benefit you and other ASCE members. Your ideas on event types, educational topics and other means of promoting Civil Engineers' contributions to society are welcome. For more information, please contact **Dennis Mac Bride** at dmacbride@septa.org or (215) 580-3404. Thanks!

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JANUARY 27, 2006

TECHNICAL GROUPS/CHAIRS

Information on the ASCE, Philadelphia Section's Technical Groups is given below. Vice President **James Markham** will coordinate activities of the Groups. If you have any topics that you think would be of interest to the Groups, please feel free to pass this information along to the Group Chair. As usual, an informative and interesting program is planned and events will be reported in upcoming issues of THE NEWS.

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**Resolve to attend ALL
Section Meetings and
Functions This Year!**

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

By James Markham, Forum Editor

Jeremy Colello, Forum President 2005-06
Pennoni Associates, Inc.
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As we come to the end of the year, I want to recognize the generosity of the Younger Members. As a result of your efforts, the YMF was able to make substantial charitable donations to Philabundance and Future City and for Hurricane Katrina Relief. I am confident that the new year will, once again, be another banner year for the YMF. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Winter Social (see below) as we try to surpass last year's donation total of \$1250.

Happy Holidays,
Jeremy Colello
YMF President

The **10th Annual YMF Winter Social** will be held on **Wednesday, February 1, 2006** at **McGillin's Olde Ale House** beginning at **6 PM**. The event will feature a buffet and open bar for \$10. Once again, all proceeds from the event will go to Philabundance and the Future City Competition. Please RSVP (rsvp@ymfphilly.org) by **January 27, 2006** for the event. If you, or your company, are interested in sponsoring the charity raffle, please contact **John Federico** (jfederico@urbanengineers.com) for more information.

The **10th Annual Future City Competition** will be held on **January 28, 2006** at **Villanova University**. The YMF is seeking volunteers for the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Mike McAtee** (mjmcatee@urbanengineers.com).

YMF is sponsoring a tour of the new WXP Studios on **Saturday, January 14, 2006 at 2:00 PM**. WXP's studio is located at 3025 Walnut Street — just a short walk from 30th Street Station, if you decide to take public transportation. We will be meeting at 1:50 PM in front of the studios. At the conclusion of the "official" tour, we will pause for the unofficial portion of the tour in World Café Live for a cocktail of your choice. Please contact **Mike Wagner** at mwgagner@urbanengineers.com with questions and RSVPs. Please RSVP by **Tuesday, January 10, 2006**.

The YMF is looking for volunteers to visit local colleges in the spring. If you are interested in spending a few hours at one of the local universities discussing the profession with the engineers of tomorrow, contact **Kristen York** (kristen.york@mcmtrans.com).

Hide not your talents.
They for use were made.
What's a sundial in the shade?

— Benj. Franklin

**LOTS OF CANDLES ON THIS CAKE...!
BEN FRANKLIN TURNS 300**

Happy 300th Birthday, Ben! He drew lightning from the sky, helped establish the first public hospital, university [none other than the esteemed, good ol' University of Pennsylvania — Ed.] and library, and went on to shape an independent and unified nation, as well as the American character. He was a printer, writer, scientist, inventor, civic leader, revolutionary and international diplomat. He was one of the more extraordinary men of his time — and ours.

And on January 17, 2006, we mark Benjamin Franklin's 300th birthday — our first founding father to reach this milestone.

Since Ben Franklin was very much instrumental in doing so much for science and scientific knowledge, and since he was a "local", we at THE NEWS would like to cite this momentous event and offer some of Ben's quotes throughout this year to cite the tercentenary of his birth. You'll see these sprinkled around the pages of THE NEWS over the remainder of the year, followed by his usual signature of "Benj. Franklin."

**CITY HALL NATIONAL
HISTORIC CIVIL ENGINEERING
LANDMARK CELEBRATION —
HOLD THE DATE!**

One of our nation's most revered historic treasures resides right here in Philadelphia — City Hall. In 2006, ASCE National will be formally citing City Hall as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. The ASCE, Philadelphia Section will sponsor a dedication ceremony and reception honoring this great historic building and this great City.

City Hall is literally in the heart of Philadelphia, in Center Square — William Penn's exact geographical center of his Plan of Philadelphia. This building, designed by Philadelphia architect **John McArthur**, is the largest municipal building in the United States and the largest masonry building in the world. The 510-foot structure, topped by a 37-foot statue of William Penn, took 30 years to build. It is undergoing a major renovation which includes its first exterior cleaning.

Our dedication ceremony is being planned to be held at the City Hall Courtyard at 12:00 noon on **Monday, May 22, 2006**. A reception will follow in Conversation Hall.

More information on this ceremony will be included in upcoming issues of THE NEWS.

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DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Airport Hilton, Philadelphia PA

"The Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Shore Protection Program in New Jersey and Delaware"

by Bob Wright, Editor

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section's annual joint meeting with the Philadelphia Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) was, as usual, a successful event for both the Post and the Section. Despite the winter-like weather on a late fall evening, over 100 attendees turned out for a captivating talk on coastal problems and projects covering what most of us know as "The Shore," a location near and dear to many of those present!

Post President Lt. Col. Robert Ruch opened the evening with several announcements, and then turned the mike over to Section President Chris Menna. Following some words from representatives of the meeting's sponsors, NTH Consultants and EA Associates, President Ruch introduced the evening's speaker.

Jeff Gebert, the Chief of the Coastal Planning Section of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, began his talk with an overview of the District's area of responsibility. This basically encompasses the Delaware River watershed and touches on parts of five states. The principal concern of this evening's presentation was the New Jersey and Delaware coastlines. The District has jurisdiction over all of the Delaware shore and the New Jersey coast below roughly Sea Bright (about 100 miles of shore). He noted that 35 million people live within 100 miles of this coastline and there has been a building boom in coastal areas over the past 20 years, both for vacation homes as well as primary residences. Thus, the shore is a major economic and recreational asset that must be maintained and protected.

The Corps of Engineers has been involved in coastal protection efforts since the 1820's, with its initial efforts on protective breakwaters for ships off Cape Henlopen and Cape May. Mr. Gebert gave a rundown of projects undertaken by the Corps in ten-year periods since the 1900's to emphasize the concentration of work within the last 20 years. These include environmental enhancement, beach replenishment/restoration, seawall construction, improvements on the various canals and waterways of the Intracoastal Waterway, and coastline protection.

Mr. Gebert noted that that, since 1990, New Jersey has led the nation in terms of the number of new projects and federal dollars invested in shore protection, despite it being the eighth

smallest state in area. A major factor in this is the activity of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, with its own program of dedicated funding for shore protection. This has amounted to \$25 million per year to supplement federal sources. More recently, the Corps has worked with Delaware state agencies to implement similar shore protection projects along that state's 25 miles of coast. The concentration of cost-shared federal shore protection projects in these two states reflects growing awareness of the importance of protecting the coastal residential and tourism economy by both state and federal governments.

In the last fifteen years, significant work has been completed on the south jetty at Barnegat Inlet, the sand bypassing system at Indian River Inlet, and several shore protection projects, including Cape May, Ocean City, Seven Mile Island (Wildwoods), and Absecon Island. Mr. Gebert outlined some of the problems encountered and successes realized with those efforts. Work underway on Delaware's new Route 1 bridge at the Indian River Inlet will also contribute to erosion prevention and inlet protection.

Mr. Gebert highlighted several planned projects for the coming 10-15 year threshold and the importance of these projects to prevent continued beach erosion and ensure shoreline protection. Many of these undertakings are not yet funded, but this is being pursued with legislators. He showed several slides of damage done by past nor'easters, which have significantly changed beaches and waterway inlets in several places.

Post President Ruch and President Menna presented tokens of the Section's appreciation to Mr. Gebert for his insightful presentation.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

A total of 25 local firms have participated in the ASCE, Phila. Section Sponsorship program for 2005-06, making it, once again, a notable success. 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 \$200 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. If your firm was 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 Editor, Bob Wright at (215) 686-5538 or newseditor@asce-philly.org.

2006 ENGINEERS WEEK - RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

The 2006 celebration of Engineers Week will take place from Friday, February 17, 2006 to Saturday, February 25, 2006. As you may be aware, Engineers Week is held in February each year to highlight the birthday of our nation's first president, George Washington, who supported extensive Engineering and Surveying activities throughout his military service. It is a time during which various Engineering accomplishments throughout the nation are cited and honored. Locally, Engineers Week programs have been held since 1953, and these include the selection of the Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year, the Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year, and other honors.

Engineers Week's activities will kick off with the Proclamation Luncheon at the Union League on Friday, February 17, 2006, with the 2006 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year, Eric Flicker (a member of the Philadelphia Section), as the guest of honor.

The Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year and runners-up will be cited at a dinner on Wednesday, February 22, 2006, at the McCall Country Club in Upper Darby.

The culmination of the Week's events, the Engineers Week Banquet, will take place at the Inn at Penn on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania on Saturday, February 25, 2006. 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, for more details and information on prices and reservations for these events.

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

ENGINEERS WEEK COUNCIL - VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

National Engineers Week, dedicated to increasing public awareness and appreciation of engineering, is held in February each year. Engineers Week activities in the Philadelphia area are coordinated by the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council (DVEWC), which is comprised of Engineers from many of the area's technical and professional societies.

Currently, the DVEWC is looking for volunteers to assist in many of the activities surrounding Engineers Week. If you are interested in volunteering with DVEWC, or have any questions on the Council or any of the volunteer opportunities, please contact Susan Best, P.E., Senior Vice Chair of the Council, at sbest@urbanengineers.com or 215-922-8081, 1810.

SECTION WEB SITE!

Check us out at 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.

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Union League, Philadelphia PA

"Philadelphia Combined Sewer System and Natural Drainage Methods"

by Jim Markham, Staff Writer

One week prior to Thanksgiving, the ASCE, Philadelphia Section, along with our compatriots from the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE), conducted our dinner meeting with a feast at the Union League. **Howard Neukrug**, the Director of the Office of Watersheds for the Philadelphia Water Department, gave us something for which we can be really thankful, namely, the knowledge that someone (Mr. Neukrug) is working really hard to preserve clean watersheds in Philadelphia.

ASCE, Phila. Section President **Chris Menna** began the meeting by introducing **Rollie Berry**, the President of the ASCE Villanova Student Chapter. Mr. Berry shared with us the many accomplishments of the Chapter.

Mr. Menna noted how the Younger Member Forum (YMF) was instrumental in arranging the evening's meeting and introduced **Jeremy Colello**, the President of the YMF. Mr. Colello shared some of the past accomplishments of the group and made announcements for several upcoming YMF events (see the YMF News section of THE NEWS for the latest on the YMF).

PSPE Philadelphia Chapter President **Jason Schmoyer** provided an update of the PSPE events. He paid the Section a very nice complement by noting that ASCE meetings were generally better attended, and that PSPE was excited to conduct a joint meeting with us.

After dinner, Mr. Colello introduced Howard Neukrug, but not before comically pointing out the various pronunciations of the word "water" throughout the region. Mr. Neukrug has over 25 years experience in utility management and operations, strategic planning and research, water quality and treatment optimization, capital programming, infrastructure re-investment, environmental policy and "visioning." He is currently responsible for the drinking water supply for the City of Philadelphia, the City's "Clean Waters, Green Cities" sustainable re-development programs and the City's wet-weather permit compliance programs for stormwater.

Mr. Neukrug opened his presentation, which could best be described as not just an engineering presentation but also a history lesson on the development of Philadelphia's combined sewer system. In the area that is now Philadelphia, there were once many creeks. The slide show included many old photos from construction projects to convert streams to sewers or in Mr. Neukrug's terms "to put them in big pipes."

**Mill Creek Sewer under construction, 1883**

As the creeks became contained in sewers, and Philadelphia grew around the contained streams, we gradually came to have the combined sewers that are operated today.

Mr. Neukrug estimated that it would take between \$1 billion and \$4 billion to completely reconfigure the combined sewer system so that only waste is delivered to the treatment plants, and overflow issues are resolved. He stated that there are incremental ways to gradually improve the situation, and get better value for our "environmental dollars." He described three categories of improvements and gave several examples of each: infrastructure improvements, land based solutions, and waterway based solutions.

For infrastructure improvements, the examples ranged from simply adding treatment plant capacity to redirecting 20% of the Mill Creek Watershed in Montgomery County. The land-based solutions included various solutions including the use of best management practices (BMP's) to address water quality on the site of new construction to using porous asphalt on city basketball courts. The waterway solutions have the goal of fishable, swimmable waterways. Mr. Neukrug's examples included the installation of fish ladders and the use of skimming boats to remove floating pollution.

Mr. Neukrug's presentation was dense with graphics and information, and his enthusiasm proved to be a treat for those in attendance. It seems unlikely that anyone in attendance had a glass of water on Thanksgiving without thinking of Mr. Neukrug.

After a brief question and answer period, Mr. Colello thanked Mr. Neukrug and gave him a few tokens of our appreciation. Mr. Menna then adjourned the meeting.

For more on watershed management in Philadelphia please visit this website: <http://www.phila.gov/water/owp.html>.

LOOK WHAT THEY DONE TO MY NEWS...

Sound like a song? At any rate, we at THE NEWS have changed a couple of things to, as always, make it better for you.

If you haven't noticed, the address and mailing block have been moved to the last page. This was done to allow more room for the postal bar code to be printed. With the previous position of the mailing block on the top of page 1, the bar code was printed at the bottom of the fold, mid-way down that page, often across text. Since our printer does not place this bar code (it gets added in the mailing process by the Postal Service), we had little control of where it would end up. The movement of the mailing block to the back page, and the provision of more blank space for the mailing code, allows the code to be added without any interference with text.

So, the net result is that, hopefully, the bar code won't obliterate any important information that we have for you in THE NEWS.

The "masthead" on Page 1 is a little more compact, so we also now have space for more news on our cover page. To make room for the mailing label space, some of the information that has usually been found on the last page has also been moved.

These are little changes that we hope will make your enjoyment of THE NEWS all that much better. We welcome your feedback and suggestions in this regard.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE -**The Famous Kinzua Viaduct**

By sheer coincidence, the November issue of *Civil Engineering* magazine contained an article on the recent happenings at the **Kinzua Viaduct** in northwestern Pennsylvania. THE NEWS had a short history of this structure, authored by Life Member **Bill Polk**, as our Historical Perspective feature in November as well.

Small world...

Also, we may have implied in the first paragraph of the article in THE NEWS that the Viaduct can still be enjoyed and visited. While the site can still accommodate visitors, obviously, the Viaduct is not intact. We hope no one made the long trip to Kinzua only to find the structure in its current state.

**Having been poor is no shame,
but being ashamed of it, is.**

— Benj. Franklin

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PHILADELPHIA SECTION 2006 AWARDS PROGRAM NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

The ASCE, Phila. Section's Awards Program for 2006 is now open for nominations. These Awards recognize Section members and others for their contributions to the Civil Engineering profession. All Awards will be presented at the Spring Social/Dinner Dance, which will be conducted on **Friday, May 5, 2006** at the Villanova University Conference Center. (More information on the Spring Social will be included in upcoming issues of THE NEWS.)

Guidelines/Rules

- Nominations must be postmarked by **Friday, February 10, 2006**, or faxed to the Awards Committee Chair by the close of business that day. Nominations should be submitted on nomination forms which are available from the Committee Chair.
- Individuals may be nominated for awards by a member in any grade of membership.
- Individuals may receive only one award in a single year, but may be nominated for more than one award in a single year.
- Award recipients are subject to the approval of the Section's Board of Directors.
- All awards are presented only in years in which, in the judgement of the Selection Committee or the Board, there is at least one suitable candidate.
- The Selection Committee, at its discretion, may nominate an alternate for each Award for Board consideration.
- The Selection Committee will recommend to the Board whether the recipient should also be nominated for applicable National or Regional awards by the Section.
- A nominee for any award **MUST** be a member in good standing of the Philadelphia Section in the year in which the nomination is made, with two exceptions (Government Service Award and Philadelphia History and Heritage Award). For these awards, membership in the Philadelphia Section is **NOT** required.

Awards

The Section has a total of 13 awards which cover various specialty areas. In addition, the Section President can nominate an individual for the Presidential Award at his/her discretion. The awards are as follows:

- Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year
- Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer of the Year
- Philadelphia Government Engineer of the Year

- Philadelphia Young Government Engineer of the Year
- Government Service Award
- Educator of the Year
- Philadelphia History and Heritage Award.

Individual Technical Awards:

- Civil Engineering Manager of the Year
- Construction Engineer of the Year
- Geotechnical Engineer of the Year
- Structural Engineer of the Year
- Transportation Engineer of the Year
- Water Resources Engineer of the Year

If you are interested in submitting a nomination for consideration, please contact **Bob Wright, Committee Chair, at (215) 686-5538** (or via e-mail at newseditor@asce-philly.org) to obtain a nomination form. You may also call Bob if you have any questions or need any additional information on the Section Awards Program.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

We receive several returned copies of THE NEWS each mailing. The usual reason for the return is insufficient mailing address.

As you renew your ASCE dues, please check your preferred mailing address for correctness. In order to have your mail delivered to you, your address needs to be as complete as possible — if you work in an office building or complex, the street address **AND** the office/floor/suite number needs to be included.

You can also check your information on ASCE's database at any time through National's website (www.asce.org) in the Member Profile section. You may need to establish a username/password for your account to do this, if you have not previously done so.

Another option remains our e-mail service which will get THE NEWS to your computer literally "hot off the presses." Please contact us at info@asce-philly.org to be added to our e-mail distribution list.

We appreciate your cooperation on this to ensure that THE NEWS and other ASCE mailings find you efficiently and quickly.

SECTION'S ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO NATIONAL

ASCE, Phila. Section President **Chris Menna** filed the Section's Annual Report to National in early December. While it was one day late, the document reflected a very busy year in the Phila. Section. Additionally, the filing of the report allows National to release the Section's annual allotment and Section dues funds.

The Report was assembled by Section Secretary **Kristen Bowman Kavanagh**, with help from Treasurer **Joe Platt**, Assistant Treasurer **Dave Hanly**, and Humphrey Fund Chair **Faruq Siddiqui**. Thanks to these folks for their diligent efforts to assemble the myriad of information required for the Report and get it in shape for submission.

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY - SHORT COURSES

The Villanova University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering announces two short courses to be held **January 11-13, 2006**.

Analysis of Water Surface Profiles Using HEC-RAS

This course has been designed to familiarize the civil and environmental engineer with both the theoretical and practical aspects of using HEC-RAS, the steady flow, water surface profile computer model developed by the Hydrologic Engineering Center of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. HEC-RAS replaces HEC-2 as the industry standard.

Each instructor has extensive consulting, research, and academic experience with hydraulic models. Villanova participated as a Beta test site for the original HEC-RAS software. Drs Horst and Traver are the chief instructors. For further information, or to reserve a seat contact **Dr. Horst at (610) 519-4546** or Michael.Horst@Villanova.edu.

Inspection and Evaluation of Dams and Design of Rehabilitation

This seminar will focus on a variety of dam related topics including the dam safety regulations for both Pennsylvania and New Jersey, dam types typically encountered in this region (including earth, concrete gravity, and timber crib), typical dam terminology, commonly identified deficiency, and methods of investigation. There will be short discussions on pertinent engineering evaluations including hydrology, hydraulic and stability analyses, rehabilitation alternatives presented through case studies, and risk assessments and security measures applicable to dam sites.

Eric J. Ditchey, P.E. is the course instructor. He is a Project Manager with McCormick Taylor, Inc, and has over 20 years of experience in inspections, analyses, designs and construction phase services for dam projects. For further information contact Mr. Ditchey at **(856) 793-0800**.

The fees for the conference which include class materials, program software and user manuals, coffee breaks, and a reception remains at \$900. 2.5 CEU's will be awarded to each student. A \$50 discount is offered to members of ASCE and SAME.

Any fool can criticize, condemn, and complain, and most fools do.

— Benj. Franklin

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JANUARY DINNER MEETING

Continued from Page 1

smaller scale than currently planned, but none of these could be implemented because of the anticipated major environmental impacts associated with them.

Project Stage 1 includes building a high-speed interchange that directly connects the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate 95 in Bucks County, a new mainline toll plaza, and mainline widening. Project Stage 2 will feature a second Delaware River bridge parallel to the existing bridge. Project Stage 1 construction is anticipated to begin in late 2006 or early 2007.

The objectives for the Interchange Project are the provision of improved linkage between the Turnpike and I-95 for easier interstate travel, the completion of I-95 through the Mid-Atlantic region via the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Turnpikes, the reduction of traffic on local roads currently used to make the connection between I-95 and the Turnpike, an increase in capacity on the Turnpike and I-95 to accommodate the transfer of traffic from the local roads to the interstates, and an overall improvement in travel time through the affected area.

Donald S. Klingensmith is currently a Senior Engineer Project Manager for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's Engineering Department. He has been employed by the Commission for over twelve years and oversees some of the Commission's largest projects on bridges, tunnels, roadway reconstruction, and interchanges throughout the Turnpike system. He is a graduate of Bucknell University.

Joseph F. (Jay) Roth is an Associate Vice President of Edwards and Kelcey (EK). He manages EK's Trevoise office and has more than fifteen years experience in all aspects of transportation planning and final design. He serves as the Program Manager of the Turnpike/I-95 Interchange Project and is responsible for design management, agency coordination, environmental monitoring and an extensive public involvement campaign. He is a graduate of Drexel University.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION, ASHE. The Philadelphia Section will NOT be accepting any reservations for this meeting. Checks should NOT be sent to our Post Office Box and calls will NOT be accepted through the Section Hotline. **Payment for reservations must be received at ASHE by the January 21, 2006 deadline.** Those who reserve past this date, and walk-ins, will be charged the higher rate. The cost of the meeting and dinner is \$25 per person before January 21, 2006, (\$20 for government employees), \$35 January 21 and after, and at the door. 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.**

Checks for reservations should be sent to

Delaware Valley Section ASHE, 1500 Walnut Street, Suite 1105, Philadelphia 19102. Checks should be made to "Delaware Valley Section ASHE".

DIRECTIONS TO RADISSON HOTEL VALLEY FORGE:

From Philadelphia via I-76 — Take exit 327 (Mall Blvd.) Turn right onto Mall Blvd. at the traffic signal at the end of the ramp. Turn right onto Gulph Road at the next traffic signal. Follow Gulph Road for approximately 2 miles to its intersection with 1st Avenue. The Radisson/Scanton complex will be on your right past 1st Avenue.

From Pennsylvania Turnpike — From the Philadelphia/Valley Forge interchange (exit 326), follow I-76 to exit 327, the first exit past the toll plaza (Gulph Road). Bear right on the ramp onto Gulph Road. Follow Gulph Road for approximately 1 mile to its intersection with 1st Avenue. The Radisson/Scanton complex will be on your right past 1st Avenue.



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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

D'Alba, Pennoni Honored as "Masters of the Infrastructure"

ASCE, Phila. Section Members **Ed D'Alba** and **Chuck Pennoni** were selected, along with 12 other local individuals, as recipients of "Master of the Infrastructure" honors by the Penjerdel Council. Ed, Chuck and the other awardees were presented with medals indicating this honor at Penjerdel's 50th Anniversary Luncheon on November 3, 2005.

This honor cited the significant improvements made to the region's "built environment", which make our economy strong and competitive, contribute to the livability of the area, and enhance mobility of the residents of the region. Both Ed and Chuck were recognized for their roles, as leaders of major engineering consulting firms, in the shaping and provision of the transportation facilities of the Delaware Valley.

Congratulations to both Ed and Chuck on this great achievement!

Still Another Honor for Pennoni!

Chuck Pennoni was named **Drexel University's 2005 Business Leader of the Year** at a luncheon conducted by the University on December 1, 2005.

Rahbari on ASCE National Committee

Section Board Member **Soheila Rahbari** was recently appointed to ASCE's **2006 International Activities Committee**.

Wright Becomes a Fellow

Editor of THE NEWS **Bob Wright** was elected to Fellow Grade of membership in ASCE in November, 2005.

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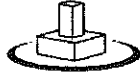
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SECTION MEETINGS 2005-06
MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND HOLD THESE DATES!

The ASCE, Philadelphia Section Meeting program for the remainder of the 2005-06 season given below. Please note this information in your calendar. Watch this space in future issues of THE NEWS and the Section website for more information.

All Dinner meetings feature a cocktail hour starting at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6:30 PM, and the meeting presentation following at 7:30 PM. As always, you are welcome to attend the presentation portion only without paying if you prefer.


Thursday, March 16, 2006 "Philadelphia's Capital Budget for Transportation" • Joint meeting with Women's Transportation Seminar, Philadelphia Chapter • Union League

Thursday, April 20, 2006 "Rehabilitation Program for City Hall" • Joint meeting with American Concrete Institute, Delaware Valley Chapter • Union League

Friday, May 5, 2006 Annual Spring Social and Dinner Dance • Villanova Conference Center

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