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The Sidney Robin Memorial Newsletter of the Philadelphia Section ASCE

Vol. 92-5

Our 107th Year

January 2020

SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2019-20

We are "cresting the hill" of our meeting season, as hard as it may be to believe, and our meeting program committee remains busy with finalizing speakers and topics for what has thus far been an interesting and informative series of meetings. Information known at this time for our remaining meetings has been provided below for your planning purposes. We would suggest that you mark your calendar at this time and hold these dates. Upcoming editions of THE NEWS will provide more details as they become available, and our usual information on the two immediate meetings each issue will be provided.

As always, you are welcome to attend the meeting presentation without dinner at no cost, if you prefer to do so.

Information on meetings after February, as of this printing, are:

2020

March 12 – Maggiano's Little Italy, Center City Comcast Tower Construction

April 9 – Multi-topic meeting/breakout sessions, in planning stages

May – Spring Social, in planning stages

A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON TO ALL (AND OUR ANNUAL LAYM ...)

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Section extend our very best wishes to all Section Members, their families and friends for a safe, enjoyable and memorable holiday season and a prosperous and productive 2020.

We at THE NEWS would also like to send the same good wishes. We put our own little "spin" on this, as you may be aware, through our Lightly Amusing Yuletide Message* (with the maybe-unfortunate but quite descriptive acronym of LAYM...). In the spirit of tis' better to give than to receive, we continue to try to give you the best we can in each edition, information you can use and otherwise, and we hope you receive it in the spirit that it is presented. But sometimes we digress and give something we hope makes you at least grin (not groan...) if not outright chuckle, and this might be "it" (or it may at least suffice until March, when, depending on inspiration, we may have our Lightly Amusing Message from Eire (LAME) to do the trick).

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JANUARY JOINT DINNER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers Delaware Valley Section, American Society of Highway Engineers

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020

Radisson Hotel/Valley Forge Casino, 1st Avenue and Gulph Road, Valley Forge, PA Cocktails 6:00 PM, Dinner 6:45 PM, Meeting Presentation follows (roughly 7:30 PM)

COST: \$40 through January 9 (\$25 for government employees and students), \$50 January 10 and after and at the door

SUBJECT: The Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission's Scudder Falls Bridge **Replacement Project Update**

SPEAKER: Kevin M. Skeels, PE, Assistant Chief Engineer, Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission (DRJTBC)

PLEASE NOTE - RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION, ASHE. The Philadelphia Section will NOT be accepting any reservations for this meeting. Reservations can be made electronically through the ASHE Delaware Valley Section website, www.delvalleyashe.pro. Electronic payment can be made through this site as well. Checks are accepted and can be sent via the instructions on the site or brought to the registration table at the meeting.

Dinner costs are \$40, with a \$20 price available for government agency employees and students. Reservations are due by Thursday, January 9. For reservations received January 10 and after, the cost increases to \$50 (the government agency and student rate has no late fee). No refunds will be made for cancellations after January 10.

We encourage you to reserve ahead to ensure a place at the meeting. Walk-ins will be accepted on a space-available basis. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE. This has always been a popular meeting and a significant turnout is expected.

The existing Scudder Falls Bridge, which carries I-95 over the Delaware River, was completed in 1959 and opened to traffic in 1961. It is a heavily used commuter crossing. The bridge's owner, DRJTBC, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and the New Jersey Department of Transportation, has contracted to replace the aging bridge, reconfigure and/or reconstruct its adjoining interchanges, and make corresponding improvements along the I-95 approaches in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The total project area is 4.4 miles, consisting of the I-95 segment extending from the Route 332 interchange (Yardley-Newtown Road/Newtown Bypass) in Pennsylvania to the Route 579 interchange (Bear Tavern Road) in New Jersey.

Construction began in 2017 and is anticipated to be complete in Spring 2022. The southbound structure is complete and handling traffic in both directions while preparations have begun to demolish the northbound spans and build the new northbound bridge. Infrastructure for all-electronic tolling (AET) and highway-speed toll collection is in place with EZPass tag readers and high-speed video cameras for license-plate billing.

FEBRUARY SECTION MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

Details are still being finalized for our February Section Meeting at this time. More information will be provided in upcoming e-blasts and in the February issue of THE NEWS.

THE NEWS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we prepare to take on new adventures in 2020, let's take a moment to reflect on a great 2019. Below are some highlights from the past year:

- Section and Tech Groups presented over 20 PDH worthy technical events
- Held panel discussion on Connected & Autonomous Vehicles and Ethics
 Hosted tours of SEPTA Elwyn line construction, American Street construc-
- Hosted tours of SEPTA Elwyn line construction, American Street construction, Ben Franklin Bridge, and Philadelphia International Airport
- Met with government officials to share 2018 PA Report Card
- Section and Tech Groups awarded over \$10,000 in scholarships
- Section members won numerous regional awards
- Teamed with Free Library of Philadelphia to run STEM programs for 2nd-5th graders
- YMF continued its positive impact on K-12 students with various outreach activities
- Served the community through the Schuylkill River Trail cleanup, Wissahickon Trail cleanup, Life do Grow service event, and Adopt-A-Highway program
- The Section expanded social media presence; Search "ASCE Phila" in LinkedIn

• Expanded Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) focus by providing D&I Insight at every dinner meeting In addition to our volunteers, I want to thank all of you for your continued support of the Section throughout the year.

Looking ahead to 2020, keep an eye out for great events and initiatives, such as:

- Multi-Region Leadership Conference (ERYMC 2020)
- Diversity & Inclusion focused programs
- Reviving the ASCE Philadelphia Section mural
- Along with a joyous holiday season, I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2020!

Kazi M. Hassan, PE President, ASCE Philadelphia Section kazihassan@pennoni.com | 215-254-7720

LAYM

Continued from Page 1

You may recall that we did conduct a contest for this in years past but ended this effort given what we can only describe as general apathy, which puts this responsibility on the staff of *THE NEWS*. That has proven to be not a good thing, given the nature of this staff (one phrase often used to describe them is "loose cannons", and we take that as a compliment...). Thus, for your holiday enjoyment, here is this year's LAYM and it in no way reflects the views or opinions of our Section. As usual, outrages can be registered at **newseditor@asce-philly.org**, and please take this in the manner it is intended in the spirit of the holiday season.

We live in very confusing times Our leaders seem to run by their own rules And we could really, really use some rhymes To divert our attention from these fools Our profession is governed by ethics

As PE's to this we must swear Given our leaders' use of many dirty tricks We're swearing a lot at this whole affair And on things foolish here's a new LAYM* Your Editor wrote it so no contest to lose We've done this before, the holidays to acclaim The net result of his consuming too much booze? Where do these messages come from? What did we do to have to suffer this way? Random musings from your Editor's mind come His misguided attempt to enhance your holiday

We're thankful for another busy year, a little tired Much accomplished, completed and conveyed One wonders with the LAYM* how your Editor

But, like sausage, you don't want to know how it's made

is inspired

As in years past, we have no holiday message contest

So your Editor gets the job for the LAYM*, no reprieve

Thus here's his greeting to you and wishes for all the best As they say 'tis better to give than to receive

Another busy year is coming to a close Scary to think the 20's are upon us soon Not a new decade, as any good student knows Time to celebrate a busy year and good fortune So now we find ourselves at the end of the year When the festive season rolls around Good tidings to all, and holiday cheer Lots of enjoyment and good company abound Decorations, lights, tree, wrapping, maybe then relax Gifts stuffed in stockings, and seasonal singing Send a note to St. Nick, don't forget his snacks Silent night but mentally jingle bells are ringing Joys of the season to all, nice gifts to be had A time for the good to get what they're needing But, if despite the warnings, you chose to be bad There'll be nothing and here you can stop reading If you've been good there's nothing to be feared As your Italian pals will raise a toast, cent' ann** Take a well-deserved break from all things engineered

And read the message in this edition from President Hassan

For our members, families and friends we wish The best of the season you may celebrate Drink, be merry and enjoy a seasonal dish Served up on a holiday-commemorative plate

The officers and Board of our Section Extend our greetings and good tidings to all And when all the celebration is over and done We hope it was memorable and you had a ball For whatever celebration on which you're keen We hope it's all good and gifts a-plenty Whether or not there's a nativity scene Happy Merry Everything and a great 2020! **cento anni—pronounced 'jen don' (one hundred years of health)

ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION-2019-20 SEASON

PRESIDENT

Kazi M. Hassan, Pennoni

PRESIDENT ELECT Jennifer Reigle, Pennoni

VICE PRESIDENT Briana Earle, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services

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Kevin Brown, Urban Engineers, 2019-21 Michael DeVuono, Arcadis, 2019-21 Gregory Dunn, Michael Baker International, 2019-20 Spencer Finch, Langan Engineering & Environmental Sciences, 2018-20 Tania O'Kane, HNTB, 2019-21 Nha Truong, Ernst & Young, 2018-20

PAST PRESIDENTS*

Angelo Waters, Urban Engineers, Inc Cathy Farrell, HNTB

Guy DiMartino, Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. *In accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws, only the immediate Past President will serve on the Board, and only for a one-year term. We show the most recent three Past Presidents as has become our tradition.

Contact Us:

President—Kazi M. Hassan, PE Highway Group Leader Pennoni Associates, Inc. 1900 Market Street, Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-254-7720; kazihassan@pennoni.com

Secretary — Mohamed Elghawy, PE Construction Manager Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. Sanatoga Commons 2500 E. High Street, Suite 650 Pottstown, PA 19464 610-326-3100; melghawy@trafficpd.com

> PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE Editor of THE NEWS Robert Wright

Section Outreach Coordinator Mohamed Elghawy Staff Writers

Assunta Daprano, Lindsay Chateauvert **SEND COPY TO:** ASCE, c/o Urban Engineers, Inc. 530 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

> COPY DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY 2020 ISSUE JANUARY 18, 2020

YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Assunta Daprano, Forum Editor Jesse Gormley, Forum President 2019-20 Pennoni Associates jgormley@pennoni.com

GREEN WOODS CHARTER SCHOOL

November 15

YMF had its second K-12 Outreach program for the 2019-20 school year at Green Woods Charter School in the Roxborough section of Philadelphia. K-12 Outreach co-chairs, CJ Medora (Gannet Fleming) and Dani Schroeder (Pennoni), were joined by volunteers, Cathy Farrell (HNTB), Alex Hazuda (HNTB), and Jesse Gormley (Pennoni and YMF Section President). Throughout the day, the volunteers spoke with three 6th grade classes and three 5th grade classes about Civil Engineering and an introduction to bridges or buildings, respectively. Thank you to all our volunteers for taking the time out of their Fridays to volunteer! If you are interested in volunteering at a future outreach event, contact the YMF K-12 Outreach Team at ASCEPhilaYMFK12@gmail.com to get on our volunteer list!

SEPTA ELWYN TO WAWA CONSTRUCTION TOUR

November 15

With the assistance of Scott Cepietz and Anthony Fitzpatrick of Michael Baker International, YMF College Contact Co-chairs, Tyler Farley and Paige Glassman, organized a construction tour for college students from the surrounding Section College Chapters. The group toured the construction of



SEPTA's extension of its Media/Elwyn Regional Rail Line from its current terminus at Elwyn Station to US Route 1 in Wawa, Middletown Township. They had the opportunity to learn about the history of this Regional Rail service extending beyond Elwyn, which had been suspended in the 1980s and the construction that had already been completed in earlier phases, along with the current and future construction plans. With an early action phase to stabilize embankments on sections of this line already completed in 2010, the tour focused in on the next component of this 3-mile effort. This phase involves significant infrastructure renewal, including retaining walls and the rehabilitation or replacement of bridges and culverts, track, catenary and structures, and signals. The last component of this project will be the construction of a new station, a 600-car parking deck, and an intermodal connection. We would like to extend a huge thank you to **Sean McMahon** of SEPTA and Michael Baker staff **Chris Heim, Dan Rush,** and **Jim Hopkins** for taking the time out of their busy day to guide the tour.

JOINT WINTER SOCIAL WITH ASHE

December 3

YMF teamed up with the ASHE Delaware Valley Section Young Members Committee for their annual joint winter social at the Conshohocken Brewery Company in Bridgeport. This gave members a chance to get to an event outside of the city. Over 50 attendees enjoyed appetizers and drinks while networking with old friends and making new ones. The night concluded with raffle prizes such as an ASCE water bottle and a Conshohocken Brewing growler. The event was a great success and we look forward to working with ASHE again for next year's winter social!





ENGINEERS WEEK UPDATE

The Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, through its Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee, will be celebrating Engineers Week 2020 from February 13 through February 22 and will continue its schedule of events which will highlight the various contributions of Engineers and Engineering students in the Delaware Valley. Please note this information in your calendar and plan to participate.

We have traditionally extended our local celebration beyond that recognized by **National Engineers Week** (February 15-22) to include our kickoff event.

OPENING CEREMONY – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

DoubleTree Philadelphia Hotel, 237 S. Broad Street (at Locust Street), Center City

The **2020 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year, Stephen Hall**, will be formally introduced and inducted at this event. The Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year, Outstanding Service Award recipients, Student Scholarship and Student Paper Awards winners, and other Engineers Week awardees will be cited at this time as well.

YOUNG ENGINEERS SOCIAL – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Brickwall Tavern, 1213 Sansom Street, Center City

The Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year will be cited at this networking and social event.

Please note this information in your calendar and plan to participate. Event registration will open in early January. Please visit the Engineers' Club website, **www.engrclub.org**, for more information and updates.

ORDER OF THE ENGINEER RING CEREMONY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020

Our Section, in conjunction with Villanova University, the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, and the American Society of Highway Engineers, Delaware Valley Section, will participate in the **Order of the Engineer Ring Ceremony** sponsored by the University during Engineers Week. This will be an opportunity for you to obtain your Order of the Engineer Ring (please visit **www.order-of-the-engineer.org** for more information and background on this) and network with Villanova Engineering students. Please hold the date for this event in your calendar.

If you already have your Ring and/or would like to participate but not receive a Ring, you are welcome to attend as well.

More information on registration and ordering the Ring will be provided in upcoming blasts.

SPONSORS IN THE NEWS

Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. is pleased to welcome **Herman Lloyd** to the firm, in the role of Vice President, serving as the Philadelphia Area Regional Leader. Mr. Lloyd began his career in our industry over 50 years ago at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (at the time called the Department of Highways). At PennDOT, he primarily focused on construction management and inspection at District 6-0, including service as the Assistant Construction Engineer. After a 29-year career there, he moved to the private side and spent over two decades at consulting firms, also focusing on construction management, and transitioning into leadership roles. He has been active in several pursuits and causes outside of work as well.

In his most recent role, Mr. Lloyd founded his previous firm's Philadelphia office location and fueled its growth, which eventually acquired over 100 employees, and provided services in more than 10 disciplines. Throughout his career, he has also recognized the importance of, and made extensive efforts to, the support and facilitation of Diversity and Inclusion (D & I) in the workforce. He specifically oversaw that his previous firm employed a diverse workforce, while assuring workplaces were inclusive, and provided opportunity for all employees. At TPD, his efforts will include further expanding the firm's Philadelphia presence, maintaining relationships with existing clients, as well as pursuing new relationships. He will also focus on D & I efforts.

We congratulate Mr. Lloyd on this position and wish him continued success!



2018 PA INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT CARD ANNIVERSARY: YEAR IN REVIEW

According to a new poll from Build Together, a nonpartisan organization, 91% of voters in Pennsylvania support a plan to invest trillions of dollars over the next decade to rebuild and modernize infrastructure. Last year, the 2018 Report Card for Pennsylvania's Infrastructure gave the state an overall GPA of C-, with infrastructure categories Stormwater, Wastewater, Drinking Water, and Inland Waterways highlighted as opportunities for improvement. The Report Card intends to serve the public by "educating Pennsylvanians about the status of the Commonwealth's infrastructure so they can, in conjunction with elected officials, make educated decisions on how to prioritize funds to meet current and future needs. The Report Card also makes recommendations to owners and Civil Engineers on how improve the state's infrastructure". Although a comprehensive federal infrastructure package has not been passed in the year since the release of the Report Card, as had been expected, efforts to improve continue in Pennsylvania.

Since the release of the Report Card, several related activities and actions have occurred as a result of its findings and reports.

Bucks and Montgomery County residents, along with Horsham officials, have nearly completed their ambitious project to build six water filtration systems to remove PFAS contamination related to the Willow Grove Naval Air Station, now closed.

Aqua Pennsylvania completed an \$8 million wastewater plant rehabilitation in Treasure Lake. Additionally, Aqua plans to invest \$550 million in 2019 for the communities it serves [Pennsylvania, Ohio, North Carolina, Illinois, Texas, New Jersey, Indiana and Virginia] with infrastructure investments of roughly \$1.4 billion through 2021 in existing operations that will rehabilitate and strengthen systems.

Legislation being considered and passed included:

- Around the time the Report Card was released, the America's Water Infrastructure Act (S. 3021 (155)) was passed into law.
- April, Gov. Tom Wolf proposed Restore Pennsylvania, a comprehensive \$4.5 billion infrastructure plan.
- May, PA House Bill 1392 was introduced to "amend Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for maximum gross weight of vehicles; in liquid fuels and fuels tax, further providing for definitions and providing for electric vehicle road use fee; and making editorial changes."
- More recently, Representative Mike Kelly was a lead co-sponsor on the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act (H.R. 2440) which was passed by the US House of Representatives.
- October, the US House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passed the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act (H.R. 1497) by voice vote. The bill would reauthorize and increase funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) program, an essential tool for communities to provide safe water for residents and businesses. The bill would also extend the authorization of sewer overflow control grants and enable communities to better manage their wet weather flows and invest in green infrastructure, stormwater diversion/infiltration, water and energy efficiency projects.
- November, Philadelphia voters approved a local ballot question authorizing the city to borrow \$185 million in capital funding for infrastructure projects.

Although much work remains to be done, ASCE is encouraged by the progress made in 2019 and looks forward to advancing the efforts in the next year.

To read the full Report Card, learn more, and take action, visit: http://www.pareportcard.org/ PARC2018/default.html#

Also, follow the ASCE Philadelphia Section on any of our platforms for the featured Category of the Month and use #ASCEPAReportCard and #InfrastructureMatters when sharing.

N-ASCE* AND YOU THINK YOU HAVE A TOUGH TIME TURNING YOUR CLOCKS BACK...

When it's time for the clock at the center of Philadelphia to skip forward or back an hour, Joseph Brasky is the man responsible. At 2 AM on November 3, Brasky was inside City Hall Tower, manually cranking a 15-foot, 235-pound minute hand to adjust from Daylight Saving Time. Brasky, a City Hall maintenance staff member, is Philly's clock guy. He was taught by Lancaster clockmaker Bob Desrochers to properly wind each of the four timepieces on the Tower, turning them forward or backward when the seasons change.

It's not that all that difficult a process, but it is tedious. There are four clock faces in the tower, one each looking north, east, south and west. After Brasky cuts the power — or "stops the escapement," for those fluent in clockspeak — he must crank forward each minute hand individually. Accuracy is critical — the challenge is lining all four clocks up. After manually moving the giant metal pointers, he will take a quick walk around the outside of the building, checking that the time on each clock is exactly right. If one clock is wrong, if it's even 30 seconds off, he's back up in the tower for round two.

Brasky's task isn't as daunting as it used to be. City Hall's current chronometers were installed in 1947, according to clockmaker Desrochers. Currently, the mechanics controlling the clock hands run using electricity, so it's not difficult to stop their motion by cutting the power if you want to adjust the time. But before the current installation, the City Hall clocks operated on a pneumatic system, meaning they were powered by air, which is much harder to control, and even tougher to set forward and back with accuracy. Switching to a reliable system was at one point essential. "Large clocks like this were originally intended to be kind of a regulator," Deroshers explained. "You knew what time it was, so you could adjust your time piece to keep up with it." Now people use their phones, he admitted, instead of needing an external point of reference to stay in sync.

Thanks to Billy Penn for this information. *N-ASCE – Not always something concerning Engineering...

YOUR DUES ARE ABOUT TO BECOME PAST DUE...

If you haven't yet paid your ASCE dues, you're going to be late shortly! Your ASCE and Philadelphia Section dues are both due on January 1. As noted on the invoice, you can pay by check or electronically.

Keep in mind that your membership entitles you to be eligible for ASCE Member Advantages. These encompass benefits in several member discount programs including professional liability insurance, life insurance, credit cards and banking services, and rental car discounts. ASCE always looks to negotiate the best deal for members. Similarly, when members save through these programs, ASCE earns revenue that helps keep your dues rates as low as possible. Please check asce.org for the details on these offers and programs.

There are additionally a number of free eLearning Webinars available to help you develop critical career skills, with topics covering a broad range of technical interests, leadership development tools, and key member programs. One of the most popular benefits of membership is that every year you can earn up to ten free PDHs for the eligible ASCE On-Demand Webinar courses you successfully complete.

Your dues are vital to the success of our Section's activities. We appreciate your ongoing support.

THE NEWS

2020 SECTION AWARDS - NOMINATIONS OPEN

As we do at this time every year, we have opened our Section's Awards Program for nominations. Our Section 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 (to be scheduled – more information on this will be provided in upcoming issues of *THE NEWS*).

We encourage you to submit nominations for those deserving individuals who should be recognized for their various contributions, achievements, and career milestones, appropriately.

GUIDELINES/RULES

- Nominations must be received by Friday, January 31. Nominations should be submitted on 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.
- Awards are presented only during 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 a candidate or 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 an award MUST be a member in good standing of the Philadelphia Section in the

year in which the nomination is made, with three exceptions — for Educator of the Year, Government Service Award, and Philadelphia History and Heritage Award, nominees need not be members of ASCE and/or the Philadelphia Section.

AWARDS

The Section has a total of 14 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
- · Community Outreach and Service 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 **215-433-1666**, 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's Awards Program.

ENGINEERS' CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA MULTI-SOCIETY MEETING December 10, 2019 DoubleTree Philadelphia Hotel, Center City

"Plan B = Make Plan A Work – Resilience as a Requirement" By Bob Wright, Editor

After a few years of the annual Multi-Society Meeting being at lunchtime, the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, which orchestrates this event, decided to return to a dinner format and re-try that to see how it would go over. The day picked for this turned out to be a raw and rainy one, but over 60 members of various technical groups turned out at the DoubleTree Hotel despite the weather, including a nice-size contingent of Section members (and our Section was one of a handful of co-sponsors of the event). The traditional Toys for Tots collection resulted in a good assortment of nice gifts to be distributed to deserving kids by the Marine Corps.

As dinner wound down, Engineers' Club President Chris Holliday started things off with a few announcements and an acknowledgement of the meeting's technical group sponsors and representatives in the crowd. (Our Section has been part of this co-sponsorship group since the inception of this event a number of years ago). He then introduced the panel, moderated by Club Director/Past President Mitchell Swann. The panelists were:

• Will Agate, Vice President, Microgrid Services, Ameresco

- Rich Conforth, Director of Engineering, PECO Energy
- Chris Dalgarno-Platt, Senior Vice President, EY Consulting
- John Henry, Chairman and CEO, Chariot Companies

Mr. Swann made some introductory remarks about the importance of resilience and how this was a necessary component that needs to be considered and designed into new buildings, facilities and projects, and how microgrids factored into this goal. He then posed several questions to the panelists to elicit their perspectives and points of view as power managers/suppliers, capital investment directors, and safety consulting/input, given the difficulties associated with getting resilience built into new projects and considered in rehabilitation efforts. The questions and responses focused on the increasing economic and environmental demands such as climate change (and related local weather variations), economic restructuring, the digital marketplace, urban population growth and pressures on public finances. This is additionally complicated by the nature of design of power distribution facilities, which are intended to transport

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

FARRELL A TOP YOUNG PROFESSIONAL

The 2020 class of ENR MidAtlantic's Top Young Professionals was recently released. This represents the best and brightest emerging design and construction leaders from across the region, which includes Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. The awards program honors individuals who have built extraordinary industry portfolios in just a few short years. In addition, many donate significant amounts of time and expertise to serve their communities.

After 42 entries were received for this year's competition, the judges narrowed the submissions down to 20 winners. Among this esteemed group is Past Section President **Cathy Farrell** of HNTB. We congratulate Cathy on this recognition!

The winning entries will also advance to compete for ENR's National Top Young 20 Under 40 honors. The national winners will be announced this spring.

KNUEPPEL NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR

Outgoing SEPTA General Manager Jeff Knueppel was cited as the Man of the Year by the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), Philadelphia Chapter, at its annual Awards Gala on December 5. Good work, Jeff!

Also at the Gala, WTS recognized the recentlycompleted Frankford Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation (the topic of our joint dinner meeting with ASHE last January and one of our National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks) as its Innovative Project of the year. Congratulations to the project team on this honor – PennDOT District 6-0, AECOM, TranSystems and A.D. Marble & Company!

power from generation/supply points to users but do not have a "reverse" capability to allow power augmentation (by solar panels and similar local devices).

The larger problem includes how to make sure users get what they need for priorities such as IT, security and life-critical purposes when there are larger-scale power outages that affected larger areas. An additional complication is that the priorities will tend to be different for each user, e.g. a hospital may need to have patient-assistance machinery available constantly while other needs can be considered secondary, while a data firm may require its systems' availability to be its priority. Thus, an expanding interest is that users are increasingly looking for ways to be selective on what needs to be "on" constantly and where power supply can safely be diverted at the user endpoint to keep those systems functioning at the expense (if need be) of other less critical operations and may therefore need to identify how this is controlled within their own buildings or business spaces.

During and following the discussion, the panelists addressed numerous interesting and meaningful questions from the audience, some of which prompted even further interesting discussion, and provided meaningful responses. President Holliday thanked the panelists for their participation and the attendees for taking the time to support the effort.

SECTION COMMITTEES

Our Section runs very well and it is mainly a result of the dedication and service of our many volunteers, both our Officers and Board Members as well as our various Committees. While many of you know the former group well, you may not be all that aware of the latter. Our Committees address many of our regular and ongoing issues and keep our Section vibrant and in the forefront of service to our membership. A list of our Committees and chairs for this season is provided below. We would like to thank all of these folks for their contributions and diligence in helping our Section do what it does.

Additionally, if you have a particular interest in helping the Section as a Committee volunteer, please reach out to us at **info@asce-philly.org** or through our Section Secretary, **Mohamed Elghawy** (contact information is provided on page 2).

Audit – Briana Earle Awards - Bob Wright **Engineers Week Hall of Fame Recognition** - Ruben David **Budget and Finance** – Joe Natale Civil Engineers in Government -Jeanien Wilson College Scholarship - Eammon Farley **Communications** – Mohamed Elghawy E-mail Outreach – Andrew Bechtel Webmaster - Greg Dunn Social Media – Joe Natale, Michael DeVuono Newsletter - Bob Wright Sponsorship - Bob Wright Continuing Education - Briana Earle Humphrey Fund – John Zarsky Membership - Andrew Bechtel Mural - Angelo Waters Nominating (for Board Positions) -Kazi Hassan Program - Jen Reigle Venue Coordination - Troy Illig Project Build - Tania O'Kane Report Card Promotion - Cricket Schreppler Society Relations - Cathy Farrell Region 2 Director - Jack Raudenbush Region 2 Governors - Carol Martsolf. Angela Marie Mayer, Carrie Nicholson, Patrick Sullivan Region 2 Younger Member Representative -**OPEN** PA Council - Cathy Farrell, Bob Wright Legislative Affairs - Spencer Finch Subsidiary Groups - Briana Earle **Construction Management –** Dennis MacBride Delaware Valley GeoInstitute - Russ Preuss Environmental and Water Resources -Eric Lindhult Structural Engineering Institute – Dan Kucz Transportation & Urban Development – Bill Thomsen

Younger Member Forum – Jesse Gormley Spring Social Committee – Troy Illig

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