



PHILADELPHIA SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS 325 Chestnut Street, Suite 800, Philadelphia, PA 19106 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. 88-7

# Our 103<sup>rd</sup> Year

March 2016

# SECTION MEETING SCHEDULE 2015-16 -WINDING DOWN...

The last two Section meetings of this season are upon us and information on each is provided under separate headings for these announcements. It's hard to believe that the season is nearly coming to a close, which means, after April, the one remaining Section event is the Spring Social.

The Social will be held on **Thursday**, **May 5**, at **Le Meridien Hotel** in **Center City** (the same location as last year's Social). More information will be provided in the April edition of *THE NEWS*. Please hold the evening on this date to join us for our end-of-season festivities, socializing, networking and fun at what you know if you attended last year's Social is an interesting and different venue.

# PITTSBURGH SECTION GEOTECHNICAL SHORT COURSE

The ASCE Pittsburgh Section will be offering a one-day short course through its Geo-Institute Chapter and Embankments, Dams and Slopes Technical Committee, as follows:

#### DATE: Saturday, April 2

*SUBJECT:* Stability of Natural and Man-Made Slopes: Analysis, Shear Strengths, Testing, Stability Methods and Stabilization

PRESENTERS: Timothy D. Stark, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Ning Lu, Ph.D., Colorado School of Mines; Matt Morris, Gannett Fleming; Eric Gottheld, Mine Safety and Health Adminstration

LOCATION: Westin Convention Center, 1000 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh

*TIME:* 7:15 AM check-in, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM course

*COST:* Pittsburgh Section G-I members \$200, non-members \$225, students \$75 Continental breakfast, lunch and coffee are included

*RSVP* by Friday, March 25, available on-line at www.asce-pgh.org

Attendees are eligible for 7.5 Professional Development Hours (PDH) for attending this presentation.

For more information, visit the website (www. asce-pgh.org) or contact Greg Rumbaugh (412-352-3330 or gregory.rumbaugh@gmail.com).

# **MARCH JOINT DINNER MEETING**

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, American Public Works Association

# THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016

**Maggiano's Little Italy**, 1201 Filbert Street (corner of 12th Street), Center City Cocktails 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting Presentation Follows (approximately 7:30 PM)

#### SUBJECT: Manayunk Bridge Trail Connection

SPEAKER: Kay Sykora, Project Director, Destination Schuylkill River, Manayunk Development Corporation; Jeff Riegner, PE, Vice President, Whitman, Requardt and Associates, LLP; Mike Campbell, RLA, Associate, Whitman, Requardt and Associates, LLP; Christopher Leswing, PP, AICP, Assistant Director, Building and Planning, Lower Merion Township; Trevor Booz, Project Manager, Philadelphia Department of Streets

**RESERVATION DEADLINE – FRIDAY, MARCH 4.** The cost per attendee is \$40, with a half-price (\$20) cost for government agency employees and students, for reservations received by this deadline.

**RESERVATIONS RECEIVED AFTER MARCH 4** – Reservations received after the deadline and "walk-ups" without prior reservations paying at the door will be charged \$50 (government agency employees and students will be charged the regular \$20 rate), but will be subject to acceptance on a space-available basis. Please note that payment via PayPal will NOT be available at the close at the reservation deadline.

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE IF YOU DO NOT RESERVE A SPACE. Walk-ins and anyone without a reservation will be handled on a space-available basis.

Reservations can be made via e-mail at **info@asce-philly.org** or electronically through our website (**www.asce-philly.org**) and pay via **PayPal**. As noted above, the PayPal option will NOT be available as a payment option after the reservation deadline. Payment for reservations by check (made payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE") will be accepted at the reservation table at the door as an option to electronic payment.

As always, guests will be welcome to attend the presentation without dinner at no charge. This will be subject to room capacity constraints.

*ACCESS AND PARKING:* Maggiano's is a short walk from SEPTA's Jefferson (nee Market East) Regional Rail station and a half-block from bus routes and the Market-Frankford Line on Market Street. There is a parking garage directly above the restaurant for which validation can be offered for a reduced price of \$8 for up to 6 hours.

We welcome members of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) to this meeting.

The iconic Manayunk Bridge, a historic reinforced concrete arch structure which spans the Schuylkill River, the Manayunk Canal, I-76, two railroad lines, Main Street and Green Lane, was built by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1918 as part of its line to Norristown and points northwest of Philadelphia. In 1960 the line was truncated at the Manayunk Station, near the east end of the bridge, *Continued on Page 4* 

# **APRIL DINNER MEETING**

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

# THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016

The Mansion at Villanova Conference Center, 601 County Line Road, Radnor, PA Cocktails 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting Presentation 7:30 PM

Following the pattern established six years ago, this meeting will consist of a dinner with subsequent "breakout" sessions on several different topics. More information will be provided in the April edition of *THE NEWS*.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As all the wonderful events of Engineers Week come to a close, I would like to extend congratulations on behalf of our Section to this year's Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year **Kevin Johnson**; the Young Engineer of the Year **Daniel Sujo** and to **Richard Prentice**, who won the award for Outstanding Service to Engineering. All of these award winners represent the Engineering profession exceptionally well and proudly acclaim its virtues. I would also like to thank the **Engineers' Club of Philadelphia** and the **Delaware Valley Engineers Week** 

**Committee** for all the wonderful events it planned throughout Engineers Week and for their commitment and dedication throughout the year that make it such a success!

As for our Section, we are quickly winding down our monthly dinner meetings. This month will be our last meeting for the year at our new home, Maggiano's, in Philadelphia. We have a great presentation on the **Manayunk Bridge Trail** which will be presented by a few team members that were instrumental in making the project a success as well as a great dinner and dessert menu to look forward to. Our **April Technical Group Multi-Topic Meeting** will feature our popular breakout sessions which will be held on **Thursday, April, 14th** at **The Mansion** at Villanova Conference Center. And to end our session we will be holding our annual **Spring Social** on **Thursday, May 5th** at **Le Meridien**. Please mark your calendar for all of these great upcoming events!



As for our beloved little John, he has his first tooth! With his new-found chopper he spends his days chewing away on his favorite teething toys, especially fond to his heart is his BACON strips! He also had his first taste of solid food (if you call mushy rice cereal solid food) and loves both making a mess and eating it at the same time. His finally accomplishment of the month is drinking water from his sippy cup. He has not mastered it yet, but is well on his way. We look forward to the warmer spring weather ahead and enjoying some outdoor fun with him!



[And, not to disappoint, we have a BONUS John photo this time, as we ran out of space in February for his ready-for-the-snow shot – Ed.]

Sincerely, AnnMarie Vigilante, P.E. President, ASCE Philadelphia Section

### CONSTRUCTION TECHNICAL GROUP TRANSPORTATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL GROUP

Lunch Meeting

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

*SUBJECT:* PATCO Car Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Upgrade Programs

SPEAKERS: John Rink, General Manager, Port Authority Transit Corp. (PATCO); Michael Venuto, Chief Engineer, Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA)

LOCATION: Urban Engineers, 530 Walnut Street, 7th Floor, Center City

**Time:** 12:00 Noon Lunch, Presentation Follows *COST*: \$15

#### *RSVP* by **Friday**, April 1

The Lindenwold "High-Speed" rapid transit line is operated by the Port Authority Transit Corporation, a subsidiary of the Delaware River Port Authority. This line, completed in 1969, connects Center City with Camden and various suburban communities in the South Jersey suburbs. It featured numerous technological advancements when new and 75 mph operation over its 14.5 mile line, using a fleet of 120 cars, 75 of which date to the opening of the line. The cars are now undergoing a major rehabilitation for an anticipated 40 years of additional service. Major infrastructure modernization and renewal projects are also underway to address the 45-plus years of the line's operation and wear-and-tear on facilities, particularly those from Camden west where an 80-year-old subway and the 90-year-old Ben Franklin Bridge provide the line's delivery into Center City. Messrs. Rink and Venuto will address the renewal program and investment and how the work has been accomplished while the line's 15,000 daily riders are accommodated.

Please visit our website for registration and payment information.

Attendees are eligible for one (1) Professional Development Hour (PDH) for attending this presentation.

# **MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**

#### ASCE MAGAZINE FEATURES ANTOINE

Erica Antoine was featured in the February edition of *Civil Engineering* for her efforts in helping young women plan for future careers in Engineering. The article, "*Making Her Dream Real, Transportation Engineer Inspires Young Women*" (p. 13 of the magazine), gives a short synopsis of Erica's efforts on this both through our Section as well as work she has done with the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), Philadelphia Chapter. In her "day" job, Erica is a Project Engineer with the Burns Group at its office in Center City.

Nice work, Erica! We're not sure whether she'll autograph the article for you, but feel free to ask the next time you see her.

#### ASCE, PHILADELPHIA SECTION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTION-2015-16 SEASON

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\* 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.

#### President—AnnMarie Vigilante, P.E.

Senior Associate/Vice President Langan Engineering & Environmental Sciences PO Box 1569 Doylestown, PA 18901-0219 (215) 491-6551 avigilante@langan.com

Secretary—Angelo J. Waters, P.E. Vice President

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PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE Editor of THE NEWS Robert Wright

Section Outreach Coordinator Nha Truong

Staff Writers James Markham Joe Syrnick

SEND COPY TO: ASCE, c/o Engineers' Club of Philadelphia 325 Chestnut Street, Suite 800 Philadelphia, PA 19106

> COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL 2016 ISSUE MARCH 18, 2016

### **YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM NEWS**

Meredith Lis, Forum Editor Chris Renfro, Forum President 2015-16 Philadelphia Department of Streets 1401 Kennedy Blvd., Room 830 Philadelphia, PA 19102 cjrenfro84@gmail.com (610) 246-4444

#### **YMF WINTER SOCIAL** MONDAY, JANUARY 25

McGillin's Olde Ale House, Center City

On January 25, the YMF hosted its 20th Annual Winter Social (#ymfws20 on social media) at McGillin's Olde Ale House. The Winter Social is the YMF's largest and most successful event of the year and it serves as a forum for casual networking and for fundraising. There were 194 engineering professionals and students in attendance despite the previous weekend's snow storm (22 inches, if you recall). The Winter Social raffle was a great success again this year. Thank you to all of the companies who sponsored raffle prizes, as your generosity helped raise over \$2500 for local charities. In addition, we'd also would like to thank the student volunteers from Temple, Drexel and Villanova Universities for assisting at the event.

### EASTERN REGION YOUNGER MEMBER Council

#### FEBRUARY 12-13

Pittsburgh, PA

On February 12-13, 10 members of the YMF along with two Philadelphia Section delegates (and over 440 people in total!) attended the Eastern Regional Younger Member Council (ERYMC) held in downtown Pittsburgh. The event featured professional development and technical seminars on topics ranging from ethics to "What It Takes to Be a Leader" to the demolition of the Pittsburgh Civic Arena, former home of the Penguins. Throughout the event, there was ample time for networking with attendees from throughout ASCE's Regions 1, 2, 4, and 5. Some of the conference highlights included the CYM roundtable sessions, where all the younger members got to discuss and exchange ideas on several topics including Member Engagement, Student-to-Professional Transition, and Work/Life Balance; the Region 2 breakout session, where Director Chris Menna gave his State of the Region address before opening the floor to general discussion and closing with a fun team building exercise involving making boats out of aluminum foil; and the Annual Business Meeting, where the YMG leaders got to discuss and vote on important topics for CYM. At the closing awards banquet, the YMF was again recognized for being the recipient of the "2015 ASCE CYM Younger Member Group Award for Large Groups," and Jesse Gormley, PE, received the "2016 ERYMC Outstanding Young Civil Engineer in Community Activities Award." Congratulations to the YMF and to Jesse for these high honors!

#### CANSTRUCTION

**CANstruction** is a unique charity which hosts competitions, exhibitions and events showcasing

colossal structures made out of full cans of food that are to be donated. The YMF held its annual CANstruction kickoff meeting at McCormick Taylor on February 10. This meeting involved brainstorming for design ideas for this year's structure as the theme for this year's event is 'Decades'. Along with design ideas, the need for modeling experience and a plan for sponsorship was also identified. This year's build night for CANstruction is scheduled to take place on May 13 at Liberty Place. If you are interested in being part of the ASCE Philly YMF CANstruction team this year, contact Eammon Farley via email at efarley@mccormicktaylor.com.

#### **DELCO PSPE JOINT HAPPY HOUR** THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Sligo, Media PA

Check the YMF's website for updated information on our annual joint happy hour with Delco PSPE at Sligo in Media. Speakers have not been announced yet, but have not disappointed in the past! Come for the socializing (er, networking) and stay for the PDH. Happy hour begins at 5 and speakers will begin at 6. Visit www.ymfphilly. org for more details.

#### YMF K-12 OUTREACH EFFORTS

The YMF continued its K-12 outreach with a visit to a 5th grade class in East Norriton Middle School on January 29. The students learned about civil engineering through a presentation and participated in a street design computer program. The event was well received by the students and school. Additionally, the YMF has been working hard planning events for the upcoming Engineers Week, so be on the lookout for K-12 updates.

#### **YMF COLLEGE CONTACTS**

YMF College Contact chairs have been working hard to meet with college chapters of ASCE, reaching out to students for ideas on presentations the group would find helpful.

Last semester, the YMF, along with ASCE Region 2 Governor Christina Casole and Tony DeGuiseppi, visited Drexel to discuss ASCE membership benefits and personal experiences with being involved with ASCE. Each individual introduced themselves and talked about how they got involved with their area chapters, how networking created career and personal growth and how students can benefit from being a part of it. Eammon Farley also gave a brief introduction on what type of events our Section has and how the YMF can assist students in transitioning them into their professions but also speak about topics they may be wanting to learn more about.

So far this semester, the YMF has visited Temple University and Widener University. At Temple University, 5 YMF members participated in a panel discussion about the transition from school to working life. Temple students came into the discussion engaged and prepared with great questions that led to an informative session. Widener University was interested in a discussion about public sector work vs. private sector work, so the YMF brought a mix of public and private sector board members to Widener's meeting to discuss the perks of each and their individual experiences. Widener students also brought some great questions to the table and provided for an informative discussion. One common theme was students' uncertainty concerning which internship or job they should choose; the YMF's overwhelming response was, "any that you can find!"

#### **UPCOMING YMF EVENTS**

**Critical Issues Seminar:** Stay tuned for information about this seminar, a panel-style presentation for PDH credit that the YMF hosts annually in the spring.

**Philadelphia Bicycling Infrastructure Tour:** Join the YMF this spring on a bicycle tour of the city highlighting bicycle infrastructure in Philly. More details to follow!

#### **SPONSOR PROFILE** KMJ CONSULTING, INC. RECOGNIZED AS WTS PHILADELPHIA 2015 EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

On December 10, 2015, WTS Philadelphia laid out the red carpet in the Philadelphia Crystal Tea Room to honor the distinguished 2015 awardees. **KMJ Consulting, Inc.** (KMJ) was among the recipients and accepted the award for 2015 Employer of the Year! The Employer of the Year award



Karen Jehanian, President of KMJ

acknowledges an employer, who empowers women to lead major initiatives, encourages career and personal development, supports the growth of women students to enter the transportation industry, and supports the WTS organization.

"I founded KMJ with the intention of creating an atmosphere that inspires creativity; where we not only care about our work product, but also about each other and our clients. I am grateful to be working with a group of people who make coming to work fun and who genuinely care about each other. --This award is dedicated to them--" Karen Jehanian, PE, President, KMJ Consulting, Inc.

Karen Jehanian leads the team as President and owner. Karen is a thought-leader, innovator and entrepreneur with more than 30 years of experience in transportation planning, traffic engineering and intelligent transportation services. Since founding the firm in 1998, Karen has led in her unique style, providing opportunity to entrepreneurial individuals who seek to grow and learn within the context of an ever changing world. Karen actively engages and encourages young women, particularly students, to be the best they can be. She has successfully used her technical knowledge, combined with her business acumen, to develop her business into a successful and respected Engineering firm.

The positive atmosphere at KMJ originates from Karen, promoting a collaborative and supportive camaraderie among the staff. The KMJ team is comprised of 14 individuals, each an integral piece in the puzzle. Professional and Career Development is an ongoing and continuing focus at KMJ. Employees are encouraged to earn *Continued on page 5* 

# SCIENCE FAIRS COMING UP – JUDGES NEEDED

Our Section will once again be offering Special Awards at the **Delaware Valley Science Fairs**, as we have done for over 20 years. The Fairs will be conducted on **Wednesday**, **March 30** at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks. Four Special Awards for individual student projects that have a Civil Engineering theme will be awarded, with two prizes for Grades 6 through 8 and two for Grades 9 through 12.

Volunteer judges are needed for this effort. The judging will require you to spend most, if not all, of 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 always a very interesting and enlightening experience.

If you are interested in being a Special Awards judge for the Section please contact **Chris Rood** at **crood@drjtbc.org**. You will also need to register for this and this can be done through the Fairs' website **www.dvsf.org**.

For more information on the Fairs please visit the above website.

We hope you can join us for a rewarding and interesting day.

# **MARCH DINNER MEETING**

Continued from Page 1

and primarily served a commuter rail line. SEPTA took over rail operations upon formation of Conrail in 1976 and extended rail service to a new station at Ivy Ridge, roughly a mile north of what became known as Manayunk West, in 1981. Deterioration of the bridge forced the rail line to be shortened to Cynwyd in 1986 and extensive repairs were performed on the bridge to contain the concrete spalling.

The bridge was identified as a possible link in the Manayunk-Ivy Ridge Trail and funding was pursued to make this a reality. Design work began in 2011 and in October 2015, it reopened as the only pedestrian- and bicycle-only bridge over the Schuylkill River. Today it provides a vital connection between Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County and Manayunk, with connections to the Schuylkill River Trail, the Cynwyd Trail, the Ivy Ridge Trail and indirectly to the Manayunk Canal Towpath. The presentation will discuss the many challenges the project faced, from the perspective of the two municipalities who were involved and the Engineers who worked on the project.

Ms. Sykora and Mr. Leswing were instrumental in obtaining funding for this project and getting the City of Philadelphia and Lower Merion Township to agree on a course of action and a scope of improvements for this work. Messrs. Riegner and Campbell were the designers who took the concept and turned it into a reality, following the often-rigorous project review process with PennDOT and the community outreach/feedback activities. Mr. Booz managed the construction portion of the work and coordinated with the contractor, AP Construction.

# FEBRUARY JOINT LUNCH MEETING

February 17, 2016

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Center City *The Indego Effect by Robert Wright, Editor* Indego

Following a weekend of the coldest weather of the winter and a snow and ice storm (despite what Punxsutawney Phil seemed to tell us a couple of weeks before), the temperatures were starting to ease up a bit for the lunchtime trip to Center City for our February joint meeting. As we have done for the past two years, we partnered with our friends at the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), Philadelphia Chapter for a lunchtime meeting. The topic this time was the "Indego Effect", the bike-share network that has been in Philadelphia since last April. Over 130 members of the combined societies were there for our fifth main Section event of this season to find out what all those blue bikes we see on the street are all about and to get an update on how the Indego program is fairing.

Chapter President **Megan Syrnick** opened the meeting and welcomed all to their seats to get things going, citing Section Past President **Bob Wright** as our ranking "official" for the meeting (yes, we dragged pretty far down toward the bottom of the barrel as other Section officers were not available to attend). As lunch wound down, President Syrnick returned to the podium to welcome **Cara Ferrentino**, the Transportation and Policy Manager of the City's Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS), to begin her presentation.

Ms. Ferrentino began her talk with a short explanation of how the Mayor's Office of Transportation and Utilities (MOTU), created by Mayor Nutter's administration, had "morphed" into OTIS, part of the Managing Director's Office under Mayor Kenney. MOTU staff began evaluation and planning of bike-share efforts several years ago. OTIS has assumed the "charge" of MOTU and oversees the development of policy and programs for transportation infrastructure and mobility, with most of the same staff in place as when it was known as MOTU.

The Indego program was initiated in April and, as Ms. Ferrentino outlined, represents a publicprivate partnership and collaboration among the City, Independence Blue Cross, Bicycle Transit Systems, and BCycle, LLC. It currently has 73 stations with over 700 bicycles available for use, with stations positioned throughout Center City, University City and nearby areas. The bikes are durable 3-speed models with adjustable seats, lights and a basket for carrying items. Users can purchase a monthly or yearly pass with a credit card on-line or use cash for a lower-value pass at Dollar General and 7-Eleven stores. The bikes are available for use around the clock. Roughly 308,000 trips were taken as of the end of 2015.

Careful planning went into station locations to maximize potential value and use. Ms. Ferrentino showed a short video that covered the reservation process. She indicated that the "dock points" are designed to accommodate generally twice as many bikes that are intended to be based at a particular station, thus riders going from one point to another can be accommodated. A station map is available on-line to provide real-time data on dock availability and alternate dock/station loca-tions in the event a desired terminal station has no space for another bike. Stations are generally located on sidewalks and in public plaza areas, as opposed to bike-share programs in places such as New York City where on-street parking spaces have been repurposed for the stations.

The program is operated by Bicycle Transit Systems, which manages bike and station maintenance, marketing and customer service. Ms. Ferrentino noted that Independence Blue Cross is a funding partner in this program. BCycle, LLC, an outgrowth of Trek Bicycles, manufactures and supplies the bikes. She explained other details about the effort and provided facts and figures on usage and utilization of the bikes in the 10 months that the program has been operating. Recent cold weather and snow has had an effect on usage, but coming warmer weather will hopefully bring back the patrons.

Usage and utilization of the bikes is closely monitored and figures are compiled to determine which stations may have the most demand and where stations might be considered in future expansions. Ms. Ferrentino indicated that the initial coverage area was developed in the hopes of being able to accommodate a varied crosssection of the City's population, with the rate structure designed to help those at the lower end of the economic scale whose mobility may be critical for job access and helpful in households without car ownership. Despite the relatively good existing transit service in the coverage area, it is hoped that the bikes will be able to supplement this to help folks on the "first leg/last leg" of their trips to/from transit stops.

Ms. Ferrentino ably handled several insightful questions from the audience. Chapter President Syrnick closed out the presentation and thanked everyone for coming, and she presented a token of the Chapter's appreciation to Ms. Ferrentino for a job well done.

# FIND/LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

As part of the ASCE PA Social Media campaign, we now have a Facebook Page for our Section. The campaign's main goal is to increase awareness of the expiring Highway Trust Fund, and also the 2014 PA Report Card. The PA Sections will be coordinating social media postings to reach the largest audience, and we're joining the fight! Below is the link to our newly created Facebook page. Please take a moment to like the page!

> ASCE Philadelphia Facebook Page www.facebook.com/ASCEPhilly

Thanks for liking our page and sharing!

# BEANNACHTAÍ NA FÉILE PÁDRAIG!\*

It doesn't seem like it should be that time already again, but the "wearin' of the green" date is almost here. And, just as expected, your Editor will put his mainly-Irish heritage to the test (and very possibly at great risk...!) as he has cranked out another "Lightly Amusing Message from Eire" (also know as LAME) for your enjoyment (or maybe your reason to imbibe) for St. Pat's Day.

As you may recall, we did have a contest for this, but it suffered the same fate as our Christmas message contest and no entries were received. This lack of response forced us to turn your Editor loose to have something for the big day. You might have an idea where this is going, but he did manage to scrape something together (below), very likely the product of a few too many beers consumed in too short a time period (or, as your Editor would call it, "intense productive creative time"). In any event, here goes.

Don't blame the Guinness It's not the Jameson's fault The Irish really have emotions And feelings, as you might call't

You know Irish eyes do smile It says so in a song But those same eyes can tear up a bit We wouldn't steer you wrong

Some say the way to do this Is to take away the drink But if you know the Irish well You know that'll just cause a stink

If you want to see the tears flow We know a way you can do Just play Danny Boy on the bagpipes And watch the Irish folks boo-hoo

Complaints can be registered at our website (keep in mind your Editor can get away with this – note the mainly-Irish heritage reference above).

#### And...

\* Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig! (ban-ochth'-thee na fay'-le paw'-drig) – Happy St. Patrick's Day! (You should know this by now!)

# REMINDER: ASCE MID-ATLANTIC REGION STUDENT CONFERENCE COMING UP

The 2016 ASCE Mid-Atlantic Region Conference will bring together over 250 students from 16 different Universities in the Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware area. The three-day conference, scheduled for **April 22-24**, will showcase our profession, our city, our sponsors, and our university. Events will take place at Drexel University and the Camden County Cooper River Boathouse. This is being coordinated by the Drexel University Student Chapter.

Sponsorships are available (Silver (\$500), Gold (\$1500), Platinum (\$2500) and Diamond (\$5000)), and judges are needed for the various events. For more information and the complete fundraising packet, please email the Drexel University Student Chapter at MidAtlanticASCE@gmail.com.

### **SPONSOR PROFILE**

Continued from Page 3

professional certifications and to develop leadership capabilities. Recently, KMJ has promoted three staff members. **Bridget Postlewaite**, **PE** has grown into her role as a dependable and confident Project Manager. **Martin Williams**, **EIT**, is working on a complex ADA ramp design project for the City of Philadelphia as a Traffic Design Specialist II. **Justin Ferri**, IT Specialist II, is working on transportation related software development project for the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC).

KMJ has been involved in numerous innovative and creative projects. KMJ is playing a role in AMTRAK's 30th Street Station District Master plan in Philadelphia. The goal is to transform and expand the 30th Street Station into a vibrant community center and premier multi-modal hub. KMJ, as part of a team with other firms, has crafted detailed models so that suggested improvements and changes can be explored, demonstrated and evaluated. KMJ is also working on preserving Philadelphia's cultural heritage through the design of 12 ADA Curb ramps to comply with PennDOT and the City of Philadelphia standards while maintaining the integrity of recognized historic streets located throughout the city.

In January, KMJ team members participated in Transportation Camp and Transportation Research Board in Washington DC Justin Ferri, presented at Transportation Camp on the webbased transportation application (the Transportation Information Gateway), he is currently working as part of the project team for New York Metropolitan Council. This application aims to function as a data warehouse, allowing data to be visualized, manipulated, even mapped or charted. KMJ fosters constructive dialogue between NYMTC Stakeholders and Cambridge Systematics development team. KMJ created an intuitive, self-contained user feedback suite, along with a method for extracting rich metadata from user feedback for distribution to developers and the steering committee.

KMJ is an innovative transportation engineering consulting firm with women at the forefront. Located in Ardmore, KMJ provides a broad range of transportation services, including but not limited to: traffic engineering and operations; transportation planning and ITS services such as strategic planning, traveler information and road weather applications; and risk analysis/risk assessment services and consulting. Our team of engineers, planners and scientists collaborates with our clients, including federal transportation entities, turnpike commissions and departments of transportation of several states, as well as county and local governments, and works proactively to achieve their projects' technical and organizational goals.

### **TECHNICAL GROUPS/CHAIRS**

Information on the ASCE, Philadelphia Section's Technical Groups is given below. 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 appropriate Group Chair.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Dennis MacBride SEPTA 1234 Market Street, 12th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107-3780 215-580-3404 dmacbride@septa.org

#### **DELAWARE VALLEY GEO-INSTITUTE (DVGI)**

Jay A. McKelvey III Earth Engineering 115 W. Germantown Pike, Suite 200 Norristown, PA 19401 jaym@earthengineering.com

#### **ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT**

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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES**

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# SOLID WASTE CONFERENCE

The 31st International Conference on Solid Waste Technology and Management will be conducted at the **Radisson Blu Warwick Hotel** (1701 Locust Street, Center City) on **April 3-6**. This Conference, coordinated by Widener University, will feature 150 presentations from representatives of 35 countries covering advances in the solid waste field. Luncheons, receptions and international networking will be parts of this event as well. PDH's will be awarded for attendance at specific sessions, and up to 12 PDH's will be able to be earned by participants.

A discounted rate will be available to Section members, at \$345 for one-day registration or \$690 for the full conference.

Please visit www.solid-waste.org/conferenceagenda/ or contact Dr. Ronald Mersky of Widener University's School of Engineering at 610-499-1146 or solid.waste@widener.edu for additional information and details. The registration form is available at www.solidwaste.org/registration-form/.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL AND** WATER RESOURCES

**TECHNICAL GROUP** DINNER MEETING

**TUESDAY, MARCH 22** 

SUBJECT: Economic Ecology and Floodplain Restoration

SPEAKER: Mark Gutshall. LandStudies Inc. LOCATION: Michael's Restaurant & Deli 130 Town Center Road, Valley Forge Center, King of Prussia

TIME: 6:00 PM dinner, presentation follows COST: members \$30, students \$25

#### RSVP by Monday, March 21

Mr. Gutshall's presentation will focus on Economic Ecology and Floodplain Restoration. He will discuss how floodplain restoration can produce measurable improvement to water quantity and quality by reducing peak stormwater flows and pollutant loadings, while increasing groundwater recharge. Several case studies will showcase "regional" examples of pollutant removal and flood reduction. Discussions will emphasize incentive-based approaches for future funding. A common theme in this presentation is the restoration or manipulation of the floodplain that is an alternative solution to today's regulatory and environmental challenges.

Reservations and payment can be made by PayPal at our Section's website (asce-philly.org). Payment for reservations by check can be made at the event (checks should be made payable to "Philadelphia Section ASCE"). Contact Eric Lindhult at 215-852-0068 or eric.lindhult@ gmail.com if you have any questions or if you will be unable to attend after you have registered.

Attendees are eligible for one (1) Professional Development Hour (PDH) for attending this presentation.







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