



ASCE

ILLINOIS SECTION

NEWSLETTER

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ILLINOIS SECTION NEWSLETTER

Mailed to all ASCE-IS dues-paying members

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Illinois Section — Zone III — District 8

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**Submission deadline
for the February Newsletter
is Jan. 9, 1996**

The Growing Role of Quality Assurance

As consulting services grow more complex and competitive, quality assurance is emerging as an important concept for improving performance and producing better projects through reduced claims and misunderstandings. It has been estimated that almost 80% of construction change orders and claims are a result of design deficiencies or errors. By developing a quality program and related procedures necessary to produce a good set of deliverables consistently (one definition of quality assurance), the engineer can increase client satisfaction while controlling costs. All types of client organizations, including units of government, have recognized the benefits of implementing a formal program for quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC). Here in the Chicago area, Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) is a good example of a governmental agency that has, in response to a mandate from Federal Transit Authority (FTA), developed a quality program adapted to meet local practice and needs.

Before discussing CTA's quality program, it is important to understand how FTA and CTA differentiate between QA and QC. Quality assurance is defined as "all those planned and systematic actions necessary to provide adequate confidence to the management that a product or service will satisfy given requirements for quality." Quality control refers to "the operational techniques and activities that are used to fulfill requirements for quality." More generally, QC is work performance and the measures necessary to ensure that work is done properly. QA is the oversight function responsible for ensuring that quality control efforts

are in place and quality program requirements are being met.

The FTA has mandated (49 CFR 633) that agencies that administer FTA grants (such as CTA) implement a comprehensive Project Management Plan that includes a quality plan. CTA's capital program, taken as a whole, is considered to fall under these guidelines. In response to the FTA mandate, CTA initiated development of its quality program in 1992. The program is comprised of a management commitment to quality, a written quality policy, written procedures, and staff who undertake QA/QC activities. The program covers work performed by in-house forces, consultants, and contractors. In addition to the CTA QA/QC program, CTA capital projects are monitored by oversight consultants from Regional Transportation Authority and FTA.

FTA guidelines mandate development of project-specific plans for major capital projects. The plans are required to encompass 15 specific elements which parallel the internationally recognized ISO-9000 series standards. These elements represent good, sound business practice and provide a consistent basis for development of a project quality plan. ISO 9000 is already well entrenched overseas and will become an issue in consultant and contractor selection before the turn of the century. Because the FTA and CTA QA/QC guidelines derive from ISO standards, they provide an excellent foundation and transition to more universal ISO compliance. Other public agencies dependent on federal funding will be stepping up QA/QC planning in concert with the

(Continued on Page 3)

Lightweight Fill Materials

Weak and poor foundation support ground is present at many locations in the Chicagoland area. The weak ground could consist of fill deposits, loose natural soils, or organic deposits. These weak formations generally result in stability and settlement problems. Methods to reduce or avoid these problems include:

- improving these soils such as with surcharges or dynamic compaction;
- replacing the soils by excavation and importation of more competent fill materials that are properly compacted;
- the use of deep foundations to transfer the loads to the more competent layers; and
- reducing the loads to be supported on the weak ground, including the use of lightweight fill materials, which is the topic of this discussion.

Lightweight fill materials have properties similar to soils and can be divided into two broad categories, i.e., granular lightweight fills and lightweight fills with compressive strength. The granular lightweight fills include wood fiber, some blast furnace slags, flyash, boiler slag, expanded clays or shales, or shredded tires. These materials possess an angle of shearing resistance which is somewhat dependent on the size and gradation of the particles.

Geofoam and foamed concrete are examples of lightweight fill materials which possess a compressive strength. Foamed concrete consists of a mixture of Portland cement and flyash with a foaming agent injected into the mix. The resulting strength depends upon the amount of cement used. The process consists of expanding small beads of polystyrene into spheres which contain numerous closed cells. The expanded spheres are then fused in a vacuum chamber which is heated. The final product generally consists of a block which is about 2' high by 3' wide by 6' long.

The table above lists the approximate unit weight and costs for typical lightweight fill materials.

Within the Chicagoland area, geofoam, foamed concrete, flyash and air-cooled slag have been used for geotechnical applications.

Geofoam was used for a road re-

Unit Weights and Approximate Costs for Various Lightweight Fill Materials

Fill Type	Range in Unit Weight pcf	Approximate Cost \$/yd ³
Geofoam	1 to 4	45 to 50 ²
Foamed Concrete	20 to 50	50 to 75 ²
Wood Fiber	35 to 60	9 to 10 ¹
Shredded Tires	35 to 55	15 to 23 ¹
Expanded Shale and Clay	35 to 60	30 to 45 ²
Flyash	65 to 90	11 to 16 ²
Boiler Slag	60 to 110	2.25 to 3 ²
Air Cooled Slag	70 to 95	6 to 7 ²

¹ Cost depends on many factors including availability of materials in the area and distance of source to site.

² FOB plant.

³ Mixed at job site using pumps to inject foaming agents into concrete grout mix.

construction project wherein the original roadway consisted of fill placed over an organic soil. This resulted in significant settlement and cracking of the pavement. The old roadway and the fill material were removed and replaced with geofoam blocks and a new roadway surface constructed over it. The total weight of the geofoam blocks and the new pavement was less than the weight of the old pavement and the fill removed, so settlement of the new roadway has been minimal.

Foamed concrete has been used at a site where new footings were constructed on top of a thin layer of fill which was subsequently found to be underlain by organic soils. The upper portion of the organic soils was excavated in sections, while the wall remained in place (spanning across the excavation). The excavation was then replaced with foamed concrete. The foamed concrete flowed like a liquid to fill the space beneath the existing footings and after hardening, served as a load distributing member. The light unit weight of the foamed concrete reduced the pressure transmitted to the underlying weak deposits.

At another site, a 5' thick mat of foamed concrete was used to support a light one-story building with underlying weak compressible soils. The reduced weight of the mat plus the weight of the building was designed to be close to the weight of soil removed so that future settlements were eliminated.

Flyash was used in the construction of an embankment for a road-

way. The flyash was obtained from a local coal-burning plant.

Air-cooled slag has been used as fill for construction of embankments over soft ground. This has reduced the driving force and resulted in a higher factor of safety against global instability of the embankment.

There are some limitations to the use of lightweight fill materials. Many of the deposits need to be encapsulated to prevent erosion or to decrease compressibility of a roadway constructed over these deposits. Some of the manufactured products are relatively expensive. The low unit weight deposits may also be buoyant and so may not be appropriate below the water table unless there is sufficient overburden pressure. Some of the lightweight fills are also excellent insulators so pavement icing may be a problem. In spite of these limitations, the use of lightweight fills has been increasing in the United States, especially with the shortage of natural aggregates and the increased amount of construction over weak deposits that were often avoided in the past. The use of lightweight fill materials is another tool that the geotechnical engineer can use for solving unusual or difficult problems.

The information presented in this article has been assembled as part of a study for the Federal Highway Administration. A more comprehensive document will be published in the near future.

Robert G. Lukes
Ground Engineering Consultants

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Last month I wrote about the changes the Illinois Section Board is making so that we can better serve our membership and the profession. These changes include the restructuring of our committees to place more emphasis on educating students and the public about our profession and encouraging civil engineers to get involved in their communities. Enclosed in this newsletter is the Illinois Section budget for the 1996 fiscal year. At first glance it may appear to be fiscally irresponsible, as we will be operating at an \$18,000 deficit. However, we have been fortunate in recent years to accumulate a surplus. So what you see is an attempt to put our money where our mouth is.

This budget, proposed by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Board in December, uses a portion of our surplus to financially jump start our education and community involvement activities. Specifically, \$5,000 is set aside for the Student Chapter and Student Outreach Committees and \$5,000 is set aside for our Technical Groups. We are challenging them to come up with effective and innovative ways to use this money to further our goals. They are required to get Board approval for each of the proposed activities prior to receiving the funds.

In addition, we have asked Barb Pries, office secretary of the Illinois Section, to increase her time commitment to half-time. This will allow Barb to provide more help to the



Committees and Technical Groups. One of her additional duties will be to handle press releases for the Committee for Public Action.

We understand that we cannot continue to operate at a deficit, and therefore, have charged the Finance Committee with:

- defining an acceptable operating reserve;
- proposing a time frame and method for lowering our current reserve to the target level; and
- proposing a prototype balanced budget that will allow the Illinois Section to satisfy our mission.

As always, we encourage your input and suggestions, so please call me at (312) 565-0450.

John Carrato

The Growing Role of Quality Assurance

(Continued from Page 1)
guidelines.

CTA now requires that consultants and contractors submit a quality plan prior to starting work. The plan must adhere to the 15 points enumerated in the FTA guidelines and is subject to CTA approval. CTA will provide some guidance, but the consultant, contractor is responsible for developing the plan independently. The plan must include procedures intended to promote consistency and uniformity in the work.

CTA has established a Quality Assurance Department under the direction of the Vice President, Service Delivery Administration, to administer its corporate quality program. The department, headed by Joe Burke, has developed CTA's Quality Assurance Manual and guidelines for development of individual consultant and contractor quality plans. The QA Department reviews quality plans submitted by consultants and contractors, monitors implementation, and audits compliance to accepted plans.

CTA is a recognized leader in implementing the FTA guidelines and expects an increased emphasis on quality plan development and related compliance audits in the coming years. To learn more about FTA and CTA quality programs, you can attend a luncheon meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25, 1996, at the Chicago Bar Association, hosted by the Management Group of ASCE. Joe Burke will speak on how CTA's program evolved and how it affects consultants who wish to work for CTA. The cost of the lunch is \$10. Please contact Fred Parkinson at (312) 782-8150 for reservations.

1995 Shamsheer Prakash Research Award

The Shamsheer Prakash Foundation makes an annual award of \$1,001 to a young engineer or scientist for excellence in Geotechnical Engineering and/or Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering.

The 1995 award has been won by Dr. Panos Dakoulas, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, Rice University, Houston. His contributions in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, including Aseismic Dam Analysis and Dynamic Soil Properties, won him this award. He is a member of ASCE and Chairman of the Soil Dynamics Committee of ASCE.

Previous winners include Dr. M.

Paster (Spain) and Susumu Iai (Japan) in 1994, Dennes T. Bergado (Thailand) and Shobha Tej Bhatia (U.S.) in 1993, and Dr. R. Kerry Rowe (Canada) in 1992.

Applications and nominations for the 1996 Shamsheer Prakash Research Award are invited from young engineers and scientists 40 years old or younger. The application deadline is May 31, 1996.

For details, please contact:
Sally Prakash (honorary secretary)
Anand Kutir
SP Foundation
1111 Duane Ave.
Rolla, MO 65401
Fax (314) 364-5572 *51.

Gannett Fleming Announces Relocation of Midwestern Office

Chicago, Illinois — Gannett Fleming, a nationally known engineering and planning firm, has relocated its Midwest Regional Office to 222 S. Riverside Plaza.

For more information, contact Jim Daum, Vice President and Midwest Regional Manager, at (312) 454-9494.

Engineers Plan Big Celebration

Since 1951 the engineering profession has celebrated the significant accomplishments of the profession. Known as National Engineers Week (NEW), the celebration generally takes place about the time of the birthday of the nation's first engineer, George Washington. In 1996, the celebration will take place the week of February 18-24. Robert Johnson, past chairman for the Chicago celebration, comments "Engineering is sometimes referred to as the 'Stealth Profession' as its practitioners tend to keep a low profile or are in fact invisible to the public. Engineers Week is our time to make the public aware of the engineering profession."

In Chicago, engineers will celebrate the profession with the following events:

- regional judging in the Future City Design Competition, UIC Campus, Saturday, January 20th;
- CECI Engineering Excellence Awards Program, January 26th, Renaissance Hotel, Springfield;
- engineering exhibits on display at the James R. Thompson Center, January 29-February 2; and
- MATHCOUNTS Program at UIC Campus, Saturday, February 3rd.

During Engineers Week: Chicago '96, there will be a luncheon scheduled for February 23rd for all engineers, featuring the keynote address by Dr. Leon M. Lederman, who is the Pritzker Professor of Science at the Illinois Institute of Technology and Director Emeritus of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. Dr. Lederman is the recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1988 and of the Enrico Fermi Prize in 1992. The title of his talk will be "Leadership and Creativity in Science and Technology." The program will be emceed by Anne Kavanagh, news reporter, WFLD-TV, FOX32 News.

Engineers Reach Out to Students

A major activity of Engineers Week: Chicago '96 will be the various student outreach initiatives, including the Future City Design Competition and the "Chicago Engineer Essay/Poster Competition." Chris Rops, HNTB Engineers, is the chairperson for the local Future City Design Competition. Chicago area 7th and 8th grade students, with the assistance of engineering mentors, will computer design and model

a city of tomorrow. The Chicagoland finalist(s) will receive a trip to Washington, D.C. for the national finals during NEW. For details, call Chris Rops at (312) 930-9119.

Larry Meyers, structural engineer at Wiss Janney Elstner, will chair the essay/poster competition. Grade school students will write an essay and design a poster depicting an engineering feat that has had an impact on their lives. For more information, call Larry Meyers at (312) 372-0555.

The Illinois Institute of Technology will be holding their annual bridge building competition for high school physics students on Tuesday, March 19th. Contact Mark Rosati at (312) 567-3161 for more information.

Winning teams in the Future City Competition, essay/poster finalists, MATHCOUNTS finalists and area science (engineering projects) fair winners will be honored at the Engineers Week luncheon on Friday, February 23rd, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago.

Other NEW Events

On Tuesday evening, February 20th, at the Union League Club, the Western Society of Engineers will honor Wilson Greatbatch with the 1996 Washington Award. This major

engineering award is given in recognition of devoted, unselfish and pre-eminent service in advancing human progress. The award is conferred upon an engineer whose professional attainments have pre-eminently advanced the welfare of mankind. Mr. Greatbatch, an electrical engineer, is the inventor of the implantable cardiac pacemaker and holder of 140 other patents. For details on the Washington Award dinner, contact Peg Bernant or Walter Lanzing at (312) 913-1730.

On February 22-24, the Rice Campus of IIT, Wheaton, Illinois, will be hosting the DuPage Area Engineer's Week program. Ruth Sweetser, director of this yearly event, claims this program is the largest of its type in the nation. The program will feature interactive presentations, lectures by prominent members of the engineering profession, displays, career information, awards and engineering contests for persons of all ages. Call Ms. Sweetser at (708) 682-6020 for more information.

Walter Linzing, 1996 NEW Chicago Chairman, proclaims, "Engineers — This is our once a year opportunity to show our colors in a unified way." The motto for the celebration is "Engineers Make It Work."

Chicago Engineer Receives National Award

Chicago resident Clyde N. Baker, Jr., senior principal engineer at STS Consultants, Ltd. in Deerfield, received the Martin S. Kapp Foundation Engineering Award from ASCE.

Recognizing his outstanding contributions to the construction of foundations, the annual award was presented on Oct. 25, 1995 at the ASCE annual convention in San Diego. Presenting the award was ASCE President Stafford E. Thornton.

Baker has served as geotechnical engineer or consultant on five of the 10 largest buildings in the world, including the Sears Tower in Chicago and the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

He has worked closely with foundation contractors to improve communication and continuity of design to foundation construction. A leader in design and construction

of drilled shafts, Baker has drilled shafts in ground thought to be unstable. He has developed more efficient design procedures, which allowed increased settlement prediction reliability and major foundation cost savings.

An ASCE Fellow, Baker has received many awards, including ASCE's Chicago Civil Engineer of the Year and Middlebrooks Award. He also has been awarded the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois Distinguished Service Award, Association of Drilled Shaft Contractors (ADSC) Distinguished Service Award, and Deep Foundation Institute (DFI) Distinguished Service Award.

He authored the *Drilled Shaft Inspectors Manual* sponsored jointly by ADSC and DFI and endorsed by the professional firms practicing in the geosciences.

Nominations Sought for National Committees

The IS Nominating Committee is seeking persons interested in serving on National ASCE committees. Full member appointments are controlled by a zonal rotation system, thus all committees do not have a vacancy to be filled by a Zone III member this year. Nominees are being sought for both the Professional Division and the Education Committees.

In the Professional Division, member positions are open on the following committees: Professional Activities, Education Activities-Professional Activities Publications, Engineering Management Division Executive Committee, Engineering Management at the Organizational Level, Engineering Management at the Project Level, Engineering Management Publications, Government Engineers Policy Issues, Member Activities Division Executive Committee, Sections and District Councils, Professional Practice Division Executive Committee, and Employment Conditions.

Member positions are open on

Education Division Committees, specifically for a practitioner to serve on the Committee on Student Services and for educators to serve on the Education Activities Committee and the Curricula and Accreditation Committee.

Information on the duties of committee members and functions is available in the Official Register, ASCE Headquarters, or from Bill Babcock, your IS Nominating Committee Chair. Service begins in August after selections are made. Members are expected to attend two, two-day meetings per year and contribute an average of four days per on assigned work. Meeting attendance is partially reimbursed under ASCE's standard policy.

This is an excellent method of being involved and making your views known. Take the time to make a difference in your society. Nominations must be received at National by February 1. Call Bill Babcock at (708) 297-5358 or John Carrato at (312) 565-0450 for details.

ASCE Younger Member Awards

Feb. 1, 1996 is the deadline for these prestigious ASCE awards. Nominate a friend or co-worker. Write a short paper.

Mandatory Continuing Education in ASCE. Does ASCE have a responsibility to mandate continuing education in order to: a) maintain ASCE membership, or b) maintain professional licensure? If you are under 35 years of age and would like to take a position on this in less than 2,000 words, you could win the upcoming ASCE Daniel W. Mead Paper Contest. This contest on civil engineering ethics was established in 1939.

The Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award was established in honor of this past ASCE president to recognize the professional contributions of the Society's younger members. Qualifications required are: service to the advancement of the profession, evidence of technical competence, leadership in the development of younger member attitudes toward the profession, contributions to public service outside of their professional career, and other evidence of merit which has advanced the Society's objectives.

The Younger Member Group

Award. Many of ASCE's younger member groups are doing some of the most exciting and visible programs to further the civil engineering profession. Involvement in student outreach programs, participation in Habitat for Humanity, judging math and science fairs, and tutoring grade school students are just a few. If your younger member group has been active, they should be nominated for this award.

The Collingwood Prize was endowed in 1894. The prize is awarded to the author(s) of a paper (1) describing an engineering work, or (2) recording investigations contributing to engineering knowledge. Authors need to have been directly connected to the research or project. A rational digest of the results, immediate adaptability to professional practice, accuracy of language, and excellence of style are factors in this award. If the paper was previously published in a technical journal within the past year, it is still eligible.

To get more information and the forms for these ASCE awards, contact Irene Taylor, ASCE Awards Department, (202) 789-2200.

Robert Wasnick, Contract Engineer

It is with great regret that we have to announce the loss of a friend and colleague, Robert O. Wasnick. He died suddenly Oct. 5, 1995, days before he was to be honored as a Life Member in ASCE at the 1995 Annual Dinner. He is survived by his wife, three children and one grandchild.

Mr. Wasnick worked his way through college and received a BS in civil engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1960. After graduation, he practiced structural engineering at Sargent and Lundy Engineers, Consoer Townsend and the Chicago Metropolitan Sanitary District before starting his career with contract houses. Being a contract engineer afforded him the opportunity of experiencing a wide variety of work experiences. One of his most memorable assignments was working on the primary booster of the Saturn Rocket, "the Moon Rocket." While on assignment at Pioneer Service and Engineering Co., he specialized in the standardization of analysis and design of bolted steel connections and promoted the use of structural steel trusses. Eventually, he began working on his own in his home office.

Mr. Wasnick had been a Registered Professional Engineer and a Licensed Structural Engineer in Illinois since 1965 and 1968 respectively. He was also a Registered Professional Engineer in Alaska, Florida and Indiana.

Most recently, Mr. Wasnick was publishing design aids for structural engineers from his home and was "working at" enjoying life.

Most people who associated with Mr. Wasnick knew him as Bob. He was a friendly, kind and caring individual, and was a talented and competent engineer who enjoyed the challenge of problem solving. He always had a smile and a kind word, and he had a way of bringing out the best in people.

Bob, you will be missed!

Judges Sought for Future City Design Contest

In conjunction with National Engineers Week, Chicago engineering societies are hosting a student design competition in area schools. The contest, known as the "Future City Design Competition," will require middle-grade students, with assistance of an engineer mentor, to design a future city with the aid of

the award-winning computer game, SimCity Classic and Future USA graphics package.

Almost 50 Chicago area schools have been confirmed to compete in the regional competition. The Chicago competition is one of the largest Future City Competitions in the country. Engineers are needed

to assist in the judging at UIC on Saturday, Jan. 13th and Saturday, Jan. 20th. Winners of the local competition will advance to the final judging in Washington, D.C. during National Engineers Week, Feb. 18-24, 1996. The winning teams will receive grants and prizes for their schools and team members.

The Future City Regional Design Competition is co-sponsored by Fluor-Daniel and the Illinois Section ASCE. Additional support is provided by the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois.

For more information on the competition or to volunteer to be a judge, call Annie Wong at (312) 368-3755.

ASCE Plans 2 New Journals for 1996

ASCE will add two publications to the technical journals program beginning in 1996. The *Journal of Hydrologic Engineering* will debut in January, and the *Journal of Bridge Engineering* will be available beginning in February.

They will join ASCE's other well-established journals that are known as some of civil engineering's most comprehensive resources of research and practice information.

The Journal of Hydrologic Engineering will detail information on development of new hydrologic methods, theories, and applications to current engineering problems. Editor Levent Kavvas of the University of California at Davis will lead the journal's editorial board of prominent engineers to ensure a balance among papers on methods-theory development, the study of hydrologic phenomena, and solutions of hydrologic engineering problems.

The journal will publish peer-reviewed papers on analytical, numerical and experimental methods for investigating and modelling of hydrologic processes. Topics will include the application of hydrologic methods to the investigation of hydrologic processes at all time-space scales.

Papers to be included in the inaugural issue include the detection of outliers in Pearson Type III data, analytical solutions for two-dimensional transport equation with time-dependent dispersion coefficients, and characteristics in evaluation of stream functions in ground-water flow.

The Journal of Bridge Engineering will provide an international forum for exchanging information among bridge engineers, builders and researchers. Devoted exclusively to bridge engineering, the journal will report on the theory and practice of structural design, inspection, con-

struction, and performance of bridges.

Editor Dennis Mertz of the University of Delaware will lead the journal's editorial board of practitioners and academics to ensure a balanced blend of peer-reviewed papers, which will address all aspects of a bridge's life, from materials to rehabilitation, safety to demolition.

Research papers will emphasize the potential impact of findings on practice, while practice-oriented papers will provide new information and unique solutions to design, fabrication and erection problems. The use of new or modified materials and components, the history of important bridges, and insights into characteristics of specific types of bridges also will be covered.

The inaugural issue will feature papers covering shakedown tests of a one-third scale composite bridge; ultimate analysis of monolithic and segmental externally prestressed concrete bridges; and girder moments in continuous skew composite bridges.

Both journals will be published quarterly and each will be available by annual subscription at these domestic prices:

Print	\$26 ASCE members
		\$117 non-members
CD ROM	\$39 ASCE members
		\$155 non-members

Special rates are available for institutional subscriptions to both print and CD ROM formats. Sample issues are available upon request.

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Engineers Name New Executive Director

The American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) has selected Thomas J. Price as its next Executive Director. Price succeeded Mitchell H. Bradley on Dec. 7, 1995. A background as an engineer together with experience in management and public policy will help Price achieve the mission he envisions for AAES, which is to expand the status of engineers in the United States.

Price worked in the electrical and nuclear utility industry from 1970 to 1981, at which time he accepted a position in the Executive Office of the President as a Senior Policy Analyst. Subsequently, he worked for the American Nuclear Energy Council and the Nuclear Management and Resources Council, and managed the D.C. office for the Tennessee Valley Authority from 1990 to 1993. Since 1993, he has been Director of the Washington office of the Society of Automotive Engineers. He holds a BSEE from Syracuse University, an M.E. in nuclear engineering from the University of Virginia, and a J.D. degree from Western New England School of Law.

"I will start in December to focus on our programs and services to meet the challenges of engineers as we approach the year 2000. . . . I am enthusiastic about leading this organization to meet the milestones and goals set by our members," Price said.

Illinois Section to Modify Constitution

By order of the ASCE Illinois Section Board of Directors, an Ad-hoc Committee has been organized to review our Section Constitution. Revisions to the Section Constitution are being sought in order to bring the Constitution into line with the current operating environment of the Illinois Section. The issues to be considered for revision include gender reference, ambiguous language, amendment procedures, and

the method of electing officers, which is in conflict with the existing By-Laws and the traditional operating procedures of the Section.

One of the most interesting issues facing the Ad-hoc Committee will be how such proposed amendments might be incorporated into the Constitution. The current Constitution permits amendments, provided such amendments are accepted by not less than two-thirds of the members

voting and further provided that the total number of voters shall be not less than a majority of the active membership. Given the present demographics and size of the Illinois Section, we do not envision sufficient response from our membership to effect a constitutional amendment. Therefore, in cooperation with the ASCE Zone III Committee on Sections and District Council, the Illinois Section has elected to forego the amendment process and administratively adopt any constitutional amendments proposed by the Ad-hoc Committee and ratified by the Illinois Section Board of Directors. In doing so, the ASCE Zone III Committee on Sections and District Council recommends that the active membership be notified of the Section's intentions and given ample time to participate in the process or respond either positively or negatively to the amendments proposed. Other Sections have faced similar situations and have used this approach, with the support of the ASCE Board of Directors, to solve the problem.

This article will be the first of several to appear in the Section Newsletter explaining the activities of the Ad-hoc Committee and the Illinois Section Board of Directors related to the issue of constitutional amendments. As we initiate the preliminary steps toward an amended Constitution, the Illinois Section Board of Directors invites you to participate on the Ad-hoc Committee. If you are interested in expressing your views to the Ad-hoc Committee, you are welcome to attend our first meeting, to be held at 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 8, 1996 at Knight Engineers Architects and Planners, 549 W. Randolph St., Chicago. If unable to attend, your comments can be mailed or faxed to the Illinois Section office at 203 N. Wabash Ave., Room 1000, Chicago, IL 60601; Fax (312) 372-5673.

If you have any other questions or are planning to attend the Ad-hoc Committee meeting on Jan. 8, 1996, please contact Richard Walther at (708) 272-7400.

Section Activities

Associate Member Forum

(Continued from Page 6)

current plans and problems with Chicago's latest efforts to beautify the lakefront.

Date: January 17, 1996

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Alfred Benesch & Company
Boulevard Towers, South
205 N. Michigan, Chicago

RSVP: Linda Saltiel at (312)
565-2497

Geotechnical Group

Geotechnical Group meetings are held **every second Tuesday of the month**, September through May.

Time: 5:30 p.m. social

6:30 p.m. dinner

7:30 p.m. presentation

Place: Como Inn

546 N. Milwaukee, Chicago

Cost: \$25 with reservations, \$30 at the door, \$10 for students with reservations, \$15 for faculty with reservations.

RSPV: Deborah at (708) 963-3444 by noon on the Thursday preceding the meeting.

January Dinner Meeting

The January meeting is being jointly sponsored with the local chapter of the American Concrete Institute. The speaker will be Mr. Tony Kiefer, P.E., geotechnical engineer with STS Consultants Ltd. in Deerfield. He will be discussing the results of research done on the "Effects of Free-Fall Concrete in Drilled Shafts." The research, which included construction of four shafts using free-fall and tremie methods with six different concrete mixes placed in 10-foot lifts, was completed in 1993 and was jointly sponsored by

the ADSC and FHWA.

Date: January 9, 1996

February Dinner Meeting

The February meeting will feature guest speaker Mike Robinson with Testing Services Corp. speaking about "Seismic Risk and Design in Illinois — A Geotechnical Perspective."

Date: February 13, 1996

1996 Geotechnical Lecture Series

The Geotechnical Group sponsors a lecture series every two years, jointly sponsored by the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). The topic for the 1996 Geotechnical Lecture Series is "Current Topics in Tunneling." The lectures will be held from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings at Kent College of Law, IIT, 565 W. Adams St. (one block west of Union Station), Chicago, Illinois. The cost is still \$125. Full-fee registrants will receive a copy of the symposium proceedings. Single session attendance is \$40 and does not include a copy of the proceedings. Proceeds from this series will fund the annual Geotechnical Group scholarship. The dates, speakers and topics are as follows:

February 27 — Dr. Wayne Clough, Georgia Tech University, "Innovative Tunnel Projects in San Francisco."

March 12 — Brian Sweeney, Haley & Aldrich, Cambridge, MA, "Boston Artery Tunnel."

March 26 — Wally Baker, Geobase, Inc., Crofton, MD, "Land Subsidence and Grouting for Tunnel Project in London, England."

April 16 — Jim Gould, Muesser-Rutledge, New York City, "Tunnel Disputes in Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles."

SECTION ACTIVITIES

Structural Group

January Dinner Meeting

In recent years, the City of Chicago has been actively involved in rehabilitating deteriorated infrastructure, including fixed and movable bridges and transit stations. Mr. Stan Kaderbek, Chief Engineer of the Chicago Bureau of Bridges and Transit, will be the featured speaker at the Structural Group's January 1996 dinner meeting. This will be an interesting meeting for anyone involved in bridge design, transit system design or infrastructure construction in an urban environment.

Date: January 23, 1996

Time: 5:30 p.m. social
6:00 p.m. dinner
7:00 p.m. program

Place: Como Inn
546 N. Milwaukee, Chicago

Cost: \$25

RSVP: Barb Pries at (312) 263-1606 by January 19, 1996

February Dinner Meeting

The February dinner meeting, co-sponsored with AISC, will feature Mr. Gerold Roe of the Bethlehem Steel Corp. Mr. Roe will present "Plate Production Improvements and Their Application to Bridges and Buildings." In recent years, steel makers have faced increasing demands for improved levels of performance as well as for improved property uniformity and consistency in their products. Advances in steel making and plate mill processing have lead to improved plate surface quality, internal quality, mechanical properties and dimensions. These plate improvements and their application to steel bridge and building design and construction will be discussed.

Date: February 13, 1996

Time: 5:15 p.m. cash bar
6:00 p.m. dinner
presentation follows dinner

Place: Como Inn
546 N. Milwaukee, Chicago

Cost: \$25

RSVP: Barb Pries at (312) 263-1606 by 5 p.m. on February 9

Management Group

For information on the Management Group and its activities, contact Fred Parkinson at (312) 782-8150.

Administration Committee Meeting

This month, the MGT AdCom will meet after the Group's presentation.

Date: Thursday, Jan. 25, 1996

Time: 1:20 p.m.

Place: Chicago Bar Association

Management Express Luncheon

Joe Burke, CTA's Quality Assurance Manager, will speak on CTA's QA/QC programs and capital construction projects as detailed in the article on page 1 on this newsletter.

Date: Thursday, Jan. 25, 1996

Time: 11:30 a.m. social
12:00 p.m. lunch
12:30 p.m. presentation

Place: Chicago Bar Association
321 S. Plymouth Ct.
(Jackson and Dearborn)
Chicago, Illinois

Cost: \$10 members/guests
\$8 students
(pay in dining room)

RSVP: Fred Parkinson, (312) 782-8150

Niche Marketing by Barry Koren

Many people who work in the built environment say promotional material all seems the same. How do you take on an aura and become sought after? How do you get a place in people's minds so that important people know who you are? How do you win recognition when there is so much competition and prospects are so rushed? One way is to find a niche and then do what's necessary to make it work.

There are five key steps in this process, planned for inclusion as part of this column in the next five Illinois Section Newsletters.

Transportation Group

February Dinner Meeting

Mr. Ralph Wehner, Executive Director of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, will present an overview of the Tollway's program to provide transportation improvements to meet the growing demands for additional highway capacity to serve motorists in the Chicagoland area. Mr. Wehner will discuss plans for extension of the North-South Tollway (I-355) as well as interchange and toll plaza improvements on the existing Tollways. The southerly extension of I-355 from I-55 to I-80 is scheduled to be under

construction in 1996. Mr. Wehner will also discuss ISTHA's plans for the O'Hare West Bypass, which will connect the Tri-State with the Northwest Tollway around the western side of O'Hare International Airport and which will also provide an east-west connection to the Elgin-O'Hare Expressway at I-290 in Itasca. He will also give us an update on the Tollway's study of potential improvements in the I-88 East-West Tollway corridor. Ralph will also discuss the changing role of the Tollway and his efforts to make the Tollway procurement requirements similar to those of IDOT.

Date: February 21, 1996

Time: 5:30 p.m. cash bar
6:30 p.m. dinner

Place: Sharko's
1 W. Roosevelt Rd., Villa Park

Cost: \$20 plus cash bar

RSVP: Jack Tone at (312) 782-8150/Fax (312) 782-1684 or Dean Kiesling at (312) 946-7121/Fax (312) 946-7199 by Friday, February 16

Urban Planning & Development Group

Topics for the 1996 Seminars will be discussed at our next meeting. Anyone interested in participating should contact John Zimmermann at (708) 823-1688. Our meetings take only one hour, which includes time for a "grand slam" breakfast, so you can get to the office in time for your coffee break.

Group Meetings

Group meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. The back room at Denny's restaurant has been reserved for the Group.

Date: January 18, 1996

Time: 8:15 a.m.

Place: Denny's Restaurant
Oakbrook Terrace, IL

Associate Member Forum

January Meeting

Is the threat of the Bears moving to Gary getting you down? Take your mind off of it by hearing about something good going on downtown. This month, the AMF group will be discussing the relocation of Lake Shore Drive. Julie Hamos, representing the City of Chicago, and Bob Stern, with Teng & Associates, will present the

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