

# ASCE

American Society  
of Civil Engineers



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ASCE Illinois Section

# News

Vol. 44, No. 6  
July/August 2003

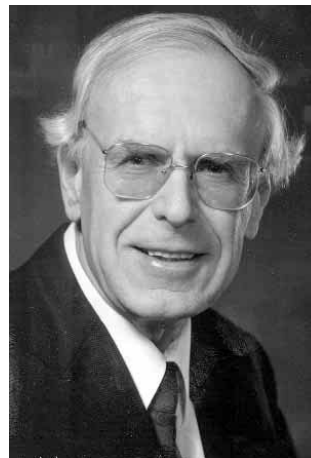
## Dr. Zdenek P. Bazant Receives the Structural Group 2003 Lifetime Achievement Award

The ASCE Illinois Section Structural Group is proud to announce that Dr. Zdenek P. Bazant is the recipient of their 2003 Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Bazant is both the McCormick School Professor and the Walter P. Murphy Professor of Civil Engineering and Material Science at Northwestern University. Along with his research assistants, he is the author of 430 journal articles and six books. He is best known for his work on the fracture of heterogeneous quasibrittle materials such as concretes, rocks, tough ceramics, fiber composites, sea ice and dry snow slabs as summarized in his 2002 monograph "Scaling of Structural Strength" and his 1998 textbook, "Fracture and Size Effect" coauthored with J. Planas.

Dr. Bazant was born and educated in Prague where his father was a renowned geotechnical engineering professor and his grandfather was a professor of structural mechanics. He received a Civil Engineering Degree from the Czech Technical University in Prague. He also received a Doctorate Degree in mechanics from the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, a postgraduate external study diploma in physics from Charles University and a docent degree in concrete from the Czech Technical University in Prague. However, he was never a graduate student. Despite having a straight A record and being first in his class during his undergraduate years, his application for graduate study was rejected. The political climate in Prague favored persons with the right connections and it did not help that he had refused membership in the Communist Party and that his roots were in an old family of well known, non-communist intellectuals. Consequently, Dr. Bazant had to do his graduate work and dissertation through external study without an advisor while being employed full time.

Despite the arduous process of self-education, Dr. Bazant came to love structural design. While doing his graduate studies, he worked briefly as a construction supervisor on an arch bridge but mainly as a bridge designer. He designed six bridges including, in

1961, a highly curved prestressed concrete box girder bridge that was analyzed according to thin wall beam and creep theories. He also designed a large prestressed concrete cable-stayed bridge over the Danube River which won the second prize in a public competition in 1964. Dr. Bazant believes that, without this experience, he would never have touched the fertile problems of size effect associated with distributed fracturing (typical of reinforced concrete), as well as the creep, moisture and durability effects in concrete.



In 1959, as an injured part-time ski instructor, he received one of the earliest patents on safety ski bindings. He supervised mass production as a hobby and, at its peak, his ZPB Bindings were used, according to one estimate, by one third of all the skiers in Czechoslovakia.

Dr. Bazant joined the faculty of Northwestern University in 1969 as an Associate Professor of Civil Engineering

ing. He became a Professor of Civil Engineering in 1973, the Walter P. Murphy Professor in 1990 and the McCormick School Professor in 2002. Time permitting, Dr. Bazant engages in consulting work. He has been a consultant to Argonne National Laboratory, Sargent and Lundy, Babcock and Wilcox, Sandia National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Ontario Hydro, Det Norske Veritas, Taisei Corporation, Hyundai Corporation, Korea Electric Power Institute, Swedish Cement and Concrete Institute, and Quadrio.

In 1996, Dr. Bazant was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, cited for his results on fracture stability, damage localization and thermodynamic concepts for stability of non-elastic structures.

In 2002, Dr. Bazant was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. His citation stated that he discovered the scaling law for the energetic size effect in quasibrittle structural failure bridging ductile and brittle behaviors, verified it experimentally for many important materials, showed its use for measuring

*(continued on page 4)*

## President's Notes

John Zimmermann



An engineer dies and reports to hell. Pretty soon, the engineer becomes dissatisfied with the level of comfort in hell, and starts designing and building improvements. After a while, hell has air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators. Hell's infrastructure report card has straight A's. The engineer finds himself as a pretty popular fellow.

One day God calls Satan up on the telephone and says with a sneer: "So, how's it going down there?" Satan replies: "Hey things are going great. We've got air conditioning and flush toilets and escalators, and there's no

telling what this engineer is going to come up with next."

God replies: "What??? How did you get an engineer? That's a mistake - he should never have gotten down there; get him up here immediately!"

Satan says: "No way. I like having an engineer on the staff, and I'm keeping him." God shouts back: "SEND HIM BACK HERE OR I'LL SUE!!!"

Satan laughs uproariously and answers: "Sure, and just where are you going to get a lawyer?"

Do you ever stop to wonder why as a group, we engineers love to rail on the legal profession? It doesn't seem to make a difference that the field of law is as varied as they come with as many types of personalities as we have in engineering. Regardless of your personal views you have to acknowledge that the legal profession gets their message out more effectively than anyone else. Additionally, their working knowledge of the law allows them to dominate the political and legislative landscape. They aren't shy about running for office either. We have a lot to learn from these people.

The U.S. Congress has long been dominated by lawyer-politicians. Lawrence Friedman notes that, "From 1780 to 1930, two thirds of the senators and about half of the House of Representatives were lawyers; the percentage seems to have stayed fairly stable". At the beginning of the 101st

Congress in 1989, 184 members (42%) of the U.S. House of Representatives were lawyers (47% of the Democrats and 35 % of the Republicans). Sixty-three senators were lawyers, roughly equally distributed between the two parties. I'm not certain how many lawyers exist in the State of Illinois General Assembly, but you can be sure that there is a similar trend. We are in the midst of the 93rd Illinois General Assembly. The legislative session starts in January and ends the last day of May. Typically, bills are introduced and voted on at this time. The Assembly takes the summer off to be in-district only to resume in October for what is called the Fall Veto session. This period in fall is intended to deal with any legislation that the Governor vetoes. However, the session typically incorporates new legislative issues as well.

Many of us non-lawyers associate the legislative process with the public service announcements that ABC aired 25 to 30 years ago while Saturday morning cartoons were on. For those of you that remember, an animated piece of paper named "Bill" was shown walking between the houses of congress hoping to be signed into a law. The segment ends in a celebration as the bill is enacted. The PSA was extremely informative for 8 through 12 year olds, but not very informative for adults.

*(continued on page 8)*

## ASCE Illinois Section News

### ILLINOIS SECTION NEWSLETTER

Mailed to all ASCE-IS dues-paying members  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
Illinois Section - Zone III - District 8

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Web Site: <http://www.isasce.org>

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Web Site: [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)  
Zone III Administrator  
Michael Cook x6121

**Submission deadline for the September  
Newsletter is August 10, 2003**

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# ASCE 150th Anniversary Book Almost Here!

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), in the year 2002, celebrated its 150th anniversary. At 150 years old, ASCE is the nation's oldest national engineering society with more than 123,000 civil engineers as members. To augment anniversary activities planned by the national leaders of ASCE, the Illinois Section Board formed a committee to plan and host 150th Anniversary programs at the local level. The Committee recognized that the Illinois Section is exceptional in its contributions to civil engineering, professionals with international recognition as experts, innovative skyscrapers and airports, vast expressway systems, world-renowned water and wastewater treatment systems, sophisticated and reliable railroad and mass transit systems, and bridges of amazing variety. During strategy sessions, ways were pondered to utilize this wealth to showcase the profession. It was soon realized that there was an absence of a document that collectively recognizes these civil engineering wonders and acknowledges the people who conceived, designed, and built them. Hence, the motivation for the book, "150 Years of Engineering Excellence."

It is hoped that the papers and graphics will foster appreciation of the importance of civil engineering. The book will serve as a time capsule, emphasizing the historical significance of these legendary individuals and works. We hope to stimulate the interest of those considering an engineering career and those who simply want to know more about civil engineering. Finally, the Committee sees the book as a means of celebrating people and projects that epitomize excellence in our profession.

A major challenge we faced was precipitated by the situation that initially motivated us. That is, there is a general deficiency in information (written, graphical, and pictorial) on many individuals and engineering facilities, not just the lack of a collective document. Perhaps this book, and others like it, will start a trend of documenting and archiving our profession.

The projects and people featured in "150 Years of Engineering Excellence" span the past 150 years and have helped make the Chicago area a dynamic place to live and work. The projects recognized include: Chicago Subway System, Chicago Water

System, Cortland Street Bridge, Home Insurance Building, Illinois & Michigan Canal, Rapid Transit in the Expressway Medians, Reversal of the Chicago River, Sears Tower, Tunnel and Reservoir Project (TARP), and Wacker Drive. The engineers feted are: Henry Morton Brinckerhoff, Octave A. Chanute, Ellis S. Chesbrough, Frank E. Dalton, Joachim G. Giaver, Samuel A. Greeley, Leroy F. Harza, Eivind Hognestad, Louis R. Howson, Jack R. Janney, William LeBaron Jenney, Clint J. Keifer, Fazlur R. Khan, Harry W. Lochner, Sr., John Lundie, Ralph Modjeski, Ralph B. Peck, and Isham Randolph.

"150 Years of Engineering Excellence" is anticipated to be ready for purchase in late September, 2003. Advance orders can be placed with Barb Pries at the Section office. The cost of the book will be \$29.95 plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling. Please consider purchasing a book for yourself and another one to donate your local school or use it as a gift. Thanks for your support!

Provided by John F. Vincent, Construction Technology Laboratories, Inc. and the ASCE Illinois Section 150th Anniversary Committee

## Scholarship Winners Minority Affairs Group

The American Society of Civil Engineers – Illinois Section, would like to congratulate the four 2003 Minority Affairs Committee Scholarship Winners.

Juacinta Burt  
William Jones College Prep High School

Marcela Rodriguez  
John Hancock High School

Marilyn Vargas  
John Hancock High School

Walter Alcazar  
William Jones College Prep High School

These outstanding high school students were provided scholarships to attend the University of Notre Dame's Introduction to Engineering program, a three-week summer workshop during which high school students are introduced to the various fields of engineering. The intense program incorporates theory, application, and field trips to provide a multifaceted perspective.

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# Dr. Zdenek P. Bazant Receives the Structural Group 2003 Lifetime Achievement Award *(continued from page 1)*

fracture characteristics and conceived non-local and crack-band models now widely used in numerical simulations of quasibrittle failure of structures. Among the members of the National Academy of Sciences, he is one of only eight solid mechanicians, the only concrete researcher and the only registered structural engineer.

His treatise "Stability of Structures", written with L. Cedolin and published in 1991, was recognized with the Best Engineering Book of the Year Award from the Society of American Publishers. He has also been the recipient of the Prager Medal from the Society of Engineering Science and the Warner Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Upon being awarded the Newmark Medal from ASCE, Dr. Bazant was cited for his fundamental contributions to the understanding of constitutive behavior of structural materials which include his plastic-fracturing and micro-plane models for concrete (which can also be extended to rock, clay, rigid foams and shape-memory alloys) and various contributions to plasticity covered in his textbook, "Inelastic Structural Analysis," co-authored with M. Jirasek in 2002.

Among civil engineering probabilists, Dr. Bazant is recognized for his statistical sampling and Bayesian models for creep and shrinkage and for his non-local generalization of the statistical theory of size effect which earned him the IASSAR Lecture Award. In concrete design, his most appreciated contributions are probably his models for concrete creep, and for drying and high temperature effects. His works on the foundation of creep theory in thermodynamics of adsorption in nano-porous materials was recognized with the L'Hermite Medal from RILEM and the Roy Award from the American Ceramic Society.

Other honors include four honorary doctorates (University of Colorado, Politecnico di Milano, Universitat Karlsruhe, and Czech Technical University in Prague), membership in the Austrian Academy of Science, Czech Engineering Academy and Academia di Scienze e Lettere (Italy). He has also been awarded the Croes Medal, Huber Prize and Lin Award from ASCE.

Dr. Bazant has served as President of the Society of Engineering Science and founding

president of IA-FRAMCOS and IA-CON-CREEP. He has been the editor-in-chief of the ASCE Journal of Engineering Mechanics, chairman of PCRV Division of IA-SMiRT, member of the United States National Committee on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and chairman of committees in ASCE, RILEM, SES, IA-SMiRT and ACI. He has also received the prestigious Guggenheim, NATO, Ford, JSPS and Kajima Fellowships. His science citation index, which has recently been running at 500-600 citations annually, is probably the second highest in solid mechanics and the highest in concrete.

While watching the World Trade Center collapse, he immediately began to analyze it and within days he submitted a paper to ASCE. This paper has since been translated into seven languages.

A dinner was held on May 14, 2003 at the Como Restaurant in Chicago, Illinois to honor Dr. Bazant.



**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
CIVIL ENGINEERS**  
ILLINOIS SECTION

## 87th Annual Awards Dinner

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2003  
at the  
CHICAGO HILTON AND TOWERS  
GRAND BALLROOM

720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois  
5:00 P.M. Cocktails 6:30 P.M. Dinner

# THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

### 2003 Illinois Section ASCE Golf Outing

The Illinois Section would like to thank the participants and sponsors for making this years outing a huge success. Money raised directly benefits Minority Affairs programs including scholarships for area high school students to summer engineering camps. Sponsors included:

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United Structural Systems Helical Pier Seminar  
July 2003  
ARCADIS  
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US Naval Reserve

# Illinois Section News & Secretary Report

M A Y 2 0 0 3

In an effort to inform Illinois Section members of the discussions at the monthly Board meetings, the Section Secretary contributes this monthly article to the newsletter. Any questions or comments on the Board activities are welcome and can be sent to the Section office at the address shown on Page 2.

## ■ Treasurer's Report

▲ The April General Ledger Trial Balance, Income Statement and Aged Receivables were discussed and approved. The aged receivables over 90 days are to be resolved with the help of Director Harbert and Communication Committee Chair Gorski.

## ■ Group Reports

Each Section Group reported on their past month's activities and future group meetings as noted in the Section Activities portion of the newsletter. Highlights of the Group's activities are as follows:

▲ Geotechnical Group's April dinner meeting was on "Unique Applications of Soil Mixing and Jet Grouting Techniques" and the speaker was Dennis Boehm of Hayward Baker, Houston, Texas. The 2003 Lecture Series was on May 2nd at UIC Campus and the topic was "Geotechnical Performance Monitoring;" there were 90 attendees and CEU Certificates were issued. There is no meeting scheduled for May and no activities until September 9, 2003.

▲ Structural Group's Biennial Lecture Series (four sessions) were held on March 4, 18, April 1 and 15, 2003 at Harold Washington Library. The Lifetime Achievement Award Dinner at Como Restaurant is scheduled on May 14th and the recipient is Dr. Zdenek Bazant of Northwestern University. The Structural Group Student Scholarship winner was Eduardo Prieto from University of Illinois at Chicago and the award was presented at the President Elect/Student Awards Dinner.

▲ Environmental Engineering & Water Resources Group's meeting was held in April at Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. The group was the host for the XP-SWMM hydrologic & hydraulic modeling course held on April 14 through 16, 2003. The EE & WR Group Student Scholarship winners were Erin Jordan for the undergraduate award and Kristin Searcy for the graduate award; both winners were from Northwestern University. The awards were given at the President Elect/Student Awards Dinner. The group is going to volunteer to participate in the clean up of the Chicago River, "The Chicago River Rescue Day," May 10th, and scheduled meetings on May 13th and June 10th.

▲ Urban Planning & Development Group's meeting was held in April and the discussion topics were President-Elect/Student Awards Dinner, student scholarship awards and Section golf outing. The MWRDGC Sewer Permitting Seminar is scheduled on June 19th at the Carlisle Banquet Facility in Lombard. The group is scheduled to meet in May at Denny's Restaurant in Oakbrook Terrace.

▲ Transportation Group's April meeting was held at Alfred Benesch & Company. Two \$1,500 scholarships were awarded at the April 23rd President Elect Dinner. The undergraduate recipient was Rosa Balbuena of University of Illinois at Chicago, and the graduate recipient was Brian Lee of Northwestern University. The potential speakers for the future luncheon programs in fall will be Jack Hartman, Executive Director, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and Luann Hamilton, Director of Transportation Planning (CDOT). The speaker for the September 19th luncheon program will be Timothy Martin, Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation.

▲ Younger Member Group's April meeting was on "Soilcrete Solutions" held at HDR and the speaker was Kyle Camper of Hayward Baker, Inc. The topic for May 17th is "Chicago River Architectural Tour" to be held at Navy Pier. The 10th Annual YMG Golf Outing is scheduled on June 21st at Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont.

## ■ Committee Reports

▲ Communications Committee Chair Gorski's report was outlining the newsletter and website. The Structural Group will be contributing for the feature article. The secondary article is open and the board suggested an article on 150th Anniversary Book. All groups should email their monthly activity reports to Chair Gorski. The July/August newsletter deadline is June 9th. The April Newsletter will be posted on the web site. Director Harbert is collecting from the Group Chairs documents describing their groups, listing executive committee members and will post on the web site.

▲ Minority Affairs / Golf Outing Committee held a meeting in April. The MAC has selected five (5) scholarship winners for the Notre Dame Introduction to Engineering summer program. The students were all enthusiastic and grateful for the opportunity to attend the 3-week program that will be held in June and July. Also, the Committee held a round table discussion with representatives from minority/woman-owned businesses to explore the challenges in today's climate and identify new opportunities for the group. Chair Granzeier reported that the meeting was extremely

enlightening for those who had not gone through the challenges of initiating a business enterprise, particularly under the additional impediments routinely faced by minorities. In addition to being a learning experience, the discussion identified many outreach opportunities for the MAC and for the ASCE, ranging from providing a resource/reference web site for new minority engineering businesses, identifying school event opportunities, and networking meetings.

▲ President Zimmermann reminded about Ninth Annual Golf Outing scheduled on Thursday, May 29th at Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont, and to make the event successful by supporting the Outing.

## ■ Old Business

▲ President-Elect Wittmer talked about the Dinner held on Wednesday, April 23rd at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant, Chicago. Patricia Galloway, the National ASCE President Elect, was the speaker. 128 guests very well attended the Dinner and there were lot of students and all the attendees were impressed by President Elect Galloway's talk.

▲ Awards Nomination committee Chair, Director Olson, said that the revised nomination forms for the IL-ASCE Awards can be found at the Section website, [www.isasce.org](http://www.isasce.org). The members are encouraged to visit the web site and send the nominations.

▲ President-Elect Wittmer updated regarding the completion of the 150th Anniversary Book. Five (5) chapters are remaining to be completed and require proofreading the chapters completed. President-Elect Wittmer again requested for help to find old photographs that are getting difficult to find. President Zimmermann and other board members are trying to find the photographs for the Book. Past President Smith also gave input for the completion of the Book. President-Elect Wittmer sent a written report to Secretary Khan regarding the 150th Anniversary Book Remaining Tasks.

▲ President-Zimmermann talked about the task of developing ASCE Infrastructure Report Card as proposed by Past-President O'Holleran in the April board meeting. The board discussed in more detail and at President-Zimmermann's request the board is interested in creating an editorial board or an advisory committee comprised of past presidents of the ASCE Illinois Section as well as civil engineering leaders. In this regard President-Zimmermann sent a letter via email to the past presidents and a copy to all board members.

—By Abdul M. Khan, Secretary

In an effort to inform Illinois Section members of the discussions at the monthly Board meetings, the Section Secretary contributes this monthly article to the newsletter. Any questions or comments on the Board activities are welcome and can be sent to the Section office at the address shown on Page 2.

### ■ Treasurer's Report

▲ The May General Ledger Trial Balance, Income Statement and Aged Receivables were discussed and approved. Ad revenue is now being tracked for both web and newsletter ads.

### ■ Group Reports

Each Section Group reported on their past month's activities and future group meetings as noted in the Section Activities portion of the newsletter. Highlights of the Group's activities are as follows:

▲ The Lifetime Achievement Award Dinner at Como Restaurant was held on May 14th and the recipient was Dr. Zdenek Bazant of Northwestern University. No functions are planned for the summer.

▲ Environmental Engineering & Water Resources Group's meeting was held in May at Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. The group volunteered for Chicago River Rescue Day on May 10th. Future meetings are scheduled for June 10 and July 8.

▲ Urban Planning & Development Group's meeting was held in May and the discussion topic was the MWRDGC Sewer Permitting Seminar scheduled for June 19th at the Carlisle Banquet Facility in Lombard. A large attendance is expected. The group is scheduled to meet on July 19 at Denny's Restaurant in Oakbrook Terrace.

▲ Transportation Group's May meeting was held via conference call. A monthly group meeting is planned for June. No other group meetings are planned for the summer. Upcoming luncheon program speakers include Mr. Ken Hemstreet of CTE Engineers regarding Dan Ryan Reconstruction on June 18 and Frank Brinskelle, Skyway Capital Improvements Manager for CDOT.

▲ Younger Member Group's May meeting was a Chicago River Architectural Tour. The 10th Annual YMG Golf Outing is scheduled on June 21st at Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont. A Cubs game is scheduled for July 13. Tickets are available now.

### ■ Committee Reports

▲ Communications Committee Chair Gorski's report outlined newsletter and website issues. The Structural Group will be contributing the feature article. The secondary article will feature an edited version of the foreword from the 150th Anniversary Book. All groups should email their monthly activity reports to Chair Gorski. The July/August newsletter deadline is June 9th. The section website has been nominated for national recognition.

▲ Minority Affairs / Golf Outing Committee reported on the golf outing held on May 29th. The event was a success with 82 golfers and net proceeds to be used for scholarships.

### ■ Old Business

▲ Minority Affairs Chair Granzeier provided a report regarding the Ninth Annual Golf Outing held on May 29th at Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont. Eighty-two golfers participated. Net income for the event exceeded \$4000.

▲ President Zimmerman reported that Director Covey and Nick Textor will be coordinating with organizers of the Houston Conference to determine costs for the upcoming Zone and National Conferences in Chicago.

▲ No section awards nominations have been received to date. Technical groups are strongly encouraged to solicit nominations. Members are reminded that nominations are due July 1.

▲ President Zimmerman reported that some past-presidents are opposed to the proposed local infrastructure report card project due to concerns that relations may be damaged with some agencies due to poor marks. It will be important to complete proper research and allow agencies an opportunity for feedback before the report card is published. Transportation Group Chair Johnston provided a summary brochure prepared by the Wisconsin Section for their state report card. Past-President John O'Holleran will draft letters to agencies as an initial presentation of the project. Volunteers for the project are required, and should express interest to Mr. O'Holleran.

▲ President Zimmerman reported that several Past-Presidents have expressed support for the development of an advisory council to the section board. Mr. Zimmerman is anticipating that the Council may be comprised of 6-8 peo-

ple, with half the Council comprised of Past-Presidents. The Council will meet regularly to identify key issues facing the profession, society, and section and provide direction on the activities of the board.

### ■ New Business

▲ The Section has endorsed the nomination of Murty Yedavalli for fellow grade. Applications for Honorary membership are now available. Nominations must be submitted by November 1.

▲ The Section received a response from the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation regarding concerns with the new continuing education program. IDPR stated that there is no need to specify the types of continuing education required. IDPR contends that carry over of credits is a practical impossibility in Illinois. The IDPR will not modify the term for continuing education hours.

▲ The Board will revive the tradition of a picnic-type social event. This event will be endowed with roughly \$500 annually to ensure its future viability. It is important for the Board to meet in a different context periodically.

—By Cliff Galitz, Director

## The Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Group Announces an Environmental Risk Assessment Seminar

*Time and place TBA, anticipated for September or October 2003.*

We are in the planning stage for this 2- to 3-day seminar that will cover Risk Based Corrective Action (RBCA) and Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (TACO) risk assessment topics. Current practice and recent policy changes will also be presented.

Please contact Tim Scully Granzeier (312-263-6703) if you are interested in this seminar and would like more information.

## Section Activities

### Geotechnical Group

No Monthly meeting in July/August 2003.

For information regarding the Geotechnical Group please contact Group Chair Dhooli Raj, Case Foundation, 1325 W Lake Street, Roselle, IL 60172, (630) 529-2911, draj@casefoundation.com

### Environmental Engineering & Water Resources Group

#### Monthly Group Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, July 8, 2003

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.  
9575 West Higgins Road  
Rosemont, Illinois

For information regarding the EE&WR Group please contact Group Chair Andrew Deitchman, P.E., Engineering Enterprises, Inc., 52 Wheeler Road, Sugar Grove, IL 60554, 630-466-9350, ADeitchman@eeiweb.com

### Minority Affairs Group

The Minority Affairs Committee is open to all members interested in supporting minorities in the civil engineering profession.

For more information contact Tim Scully Granzeier/ ARCADIS 312-263-6703, TGranzeier@arcadis-us.com

### Structural Group

No Monthly meeting in July/August 2003.

For information regarding the Structural Group please contact Group Chair Michael O'Connor, P.E., Alfred Benesch & Company, 205 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60601, (312) 565-0450, moconnor@benesch.com

### Transportation Group

#### July Luncheon Program

**Speaker:** *Frank Brinskelle*  
*Skyway Capital Improvements*  
*Manager*  
*City of Chicago*  
*Department of Transportation*  
*Bureau of Bridges and Transit*

**Date:** Wednesday, July 16, 2003

**Time:** 11:30 to 1:30

**Location:** Chicago Athletic Association  
12 S. Michigan Ave.

For information regarding the Transportation Group please contact Group Chair Peter Johnston, P.E., Graef Anhalt Schloemer & Assoc, 8501 W Higgins Rd., Suite 280, Chicago, IL 60631, (773) 399-0112, Peter.Johnston@GASAI.com

### Urban Planning & Development Group

#### Monthly Group Meeting

The Urban Planning and Development Group meets monthly in the morning of the 3rd Thursday of the month. The Group meets at the Oakbrook Terrace Denny's Restaurant at the northwest corner of Midwest Road and 22nd Street. The Group next meets at 7:30 am on July 19, 2003. It is also preparing Fall '03 and Spring '04 seminars. The Urban Planning and Development Group are examining other ways to provide tools and information to the membership.

For questions about the Urban Planning and Development Group activities, contact its Chairman, Glenn Clayton, Illinois Concrete

Pipe Assoc., 5 South 710 Steeple Run Dr, Naperville, IL 60540, (630) 357-9327, icpamd@aol.com or the Group Secretary, Stan Walczynski, at 630/ 513-7918 or swalczynski@lightfirst.com.

### Younger Member Group

#### Monthly Outing

**Topic:** YMG Cubs Outing

**Date:** Sunday, July 13, 2003

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Wrigley Field

**Cost:** \$25/each, 4 tickets per person maximum

For reservations contact Group Chair Jack Franke, P.E., Hayward Baker, 1477 Barclay Blvd, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089, (847) 484-8112, je فرانке@haywardbaker.com If you would like to receive monthly e-mails from the Younger Member Group, please e-mail Brian Willham at bwillham@hdrinc.com

## Scholarship Winners Transportation Group



The IL-ASCE Transportation Group presented two \$1500 undergraduate/graduate scholarships at the 2003 President Elect / Student Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 23, 2003 at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant in Chicago, IL. The winners were Brian Ho-Yin-Lee, Northwestern University – Graduate Scholarship and Rosa Balbuena, University of Illinois at Chicago – Undergraduate Scholarship. Pictured are from left to right: Brian Ho-Yin-Lee, Robert Gorski – Group Secretary and Programs Chair, Peter Johnston – Group Chair, Rosa Balbuena, Joan Zhong – Group Treasurer.

# ASCE Illinois Section News

203 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 2010  
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## President's Notes *(continued from page 2)*

The legislative process is a very dynamic one. Bills get modified throughout the reading period. What goes in as an agriculture bill may end up as an agriculture bill, farm subsidies, school funding for agricultural course work, and casino gambling. Some bills, called 'shell bills,' are designed so that multiple issues can get added to the original document. For example, a bill sponsoring a transportation study can have the language associated with the Structural Work Act incorporated into it.

The key for any special interest, such as engineers with the SWA or the unionization of engineers, is to never grow complacent with an issue. Earlier this year, many groups, including the Illinois Section, encouraged our members to contact their representatives to ask them to oppose the SWA. The movement by all opposed to SWA was strong and the SWA language was never 'officially' introduced as a bill. Most of us, including myself, thought that the issue was dead for this session of the Assembly. However, because of how the shell-bills are used, SWA can be reintroduced at any time.

At the end of May, a rumor was circulating that the SWA was going to be added to Senate Bill 729. Many of the same groups that opposed the bill in January vocalized their opposition to their representative. You may recall that at the time the Assembly had recently passed the SBC legislation: Springfield was a very busy place. In the end Senate Bill 729 was never modified to include SWA.

What surprised me was the reaction of many of our members who took the time to contact their representative. Rather than feeling that they had won a minor victory, they were concerned that they may have 'wasted' the time of their elected official. Many said that they needed more concrete evidence that a bill was moving forward before contacting their

representative in the future. Rest assured that most attorneys would not think this way.

My state senator suggests that our membership be vigilant in contacting their elected officials regarding the SWA or any other issue that affects them. Any existing bill can be modified and brought to a vote with only a 1-Hour notice. No one's time is ever wasted participating in the legislative process. Your attorney already knows this.

Friedman, Lawrence M. 1985. *A History of American Law*, 2nd ed. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Lastly, congratulations to Wight Consultants of Barrington who celebrate their 50th anniversary this year!

## Calendar of Events

**2003**

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|----------|--|
| July 8   | Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Group Meeting          |
| July 13  | Younger Member Group Cubs Outing                                     |
| July 16  | Transportation Group Luncheon Program with Brinskelle Chicago Skyway |
| July 19  | Urban Planning and Development Group Meeting                         |
| August 4 | Illinois Section Board Meeting                                       |
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PLEASE VISIT [ISASCE.ORG](http://ISASCE.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING ILLINOIS SECTION ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

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