

ASCE

American Society
of Civil Engineers



NASCE Illinois Sectionews

Vol. 45, No. 9
November, 2004

Award Winners Highlight the 88th Annual Dinner Meeting

INSIDE:

Award Winners

1, 5, 6, 7, 8

President's Notes

2, 8

Metra Service

Expansion

3, 8

Section Activities

4

News & Secretary Report

9

Calendar of Events

10

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The 88th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Section took place on October 13, 2004 at the Chicago Hilton and Towers in Chicago. The Illinois Section Awards for 2004 were presented. The award winners were as follows:

PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYER RECOGNITION AWARD STS Consultants, LTD.

Founded in 1948 by John P. Gnaedinger and Ted Van Zelst as Soil Testing Services, Inc., STS Consultants, Ltd. (STS) has transformed itself from a two-person testing service to a 500-person globally-recognized engineering consulting firm. Areas of engineering include civil, geotechnical, structural, water resources, environmental and wastewater engineering. As the size of the company grew, so did involvement in professional associations.

STS promotes the active involvement in professional organizations, including the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). Currently, there are 58 engineers company-wide active in ASCE. Of the 36 civil engineers from the Chicago Regional Office in Vernon Hills, IL, 22 are members of ASCE. This includes long-term participants and those active in various committees and groups.

To encourage participation in ASCE, STS takes responsibility for the financial and time investments required to be an active member in the organization. STS pays 100 percent of annual ASCE memberships including section dues for its employees, ASCE Journals and Monthly and Annual Dinner Meeting registration fees.

In addition, STS encourages its engineers to participate in conferences and continuing education seminars. Registration fees and travel expenses are paid 100 percent by STS, as is time for professional development. Office resources, including administrative and marketing staff, are available to all engineers for technical papers and presentations for various regional, national and international conferences and publications, including the ASCE Illinois Section Newsletter.

STS staff is encouraged to participate in volunteer work and monetarily supports activities involving

youth and engineering services from engineer mentors for the Future Cities Competition to sponsoring the University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign's Steel Bridge Team.

STS will continue to support the ASCE by fostering active involvement and participation of STS engineers in ASCE activities, committees and groups.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AWARD Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Group

The Environmental Engineering and Water Resources (EE&WR) Technical Group of the Illinois Section focuses on providing high quality courses and seminars for their members and other professionals in environmental and water resources engineering in the region. They typically sponsor, or co-sponsor four to six seminars per year. In the past, these have included multi-day beginning and advanced computer training courses for HEC-RAS, HEC-HMS, FEQ, SWMM, and HSPF. This year they also held a two-day seminar on Risk Based Corrective Action for professionals in the environmental field. To help the attendees track the new continuing education requirements recently implemented by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation, EE&WR provides certificates of attendance to all participants. The proceeds from the courses and seminars EE&WR organizes are used to sponsor college scholarships and grants to local ASCE Student Chapters and other area students and engineering associations. EE&WR has monthly planning meetings in Chicago that are attended regularly by 10 to 15 members to plan their courses and social activities.

In addition to sponsoring technical courses, Group activities include co-sponsored social outings with the Younger Members Group and sponsoring a Holiday Dinner. This year Group members have also volunteered for Future Cities, the Chicago River Rescue Day, and a clean up at Montrose Beach.

(continued on page 5)

President's Notes

Thomas T. Burke, Jr.



October means the changing of the guard for ASCE, both at a National level and at our Section level. I have the honor to lead a Section that is in excellent shape. Whether measured by the volume of activities performed by the Section, the financial position, the number of members, or the number of active volunteers in the Section, we are doing very well and that is due in large part to the efforts of those who have led before me. I have been on the Board of the Illinois Section under the direction of 6 different presidents. The two most recent, whom I have worked most closely with, John Zimmermann and Don Wittmer;

have provided excellent leadership skills and vision. Following Don Wittmer in this position is not an easy task. Don has tremendously benefited our Illinois Section and the national society. Recently I was talking to David Kennedy, Executive Director of the Illinois Chapter of the American Council of Engineering Companies (formerly CECEI) and he praised Don's hard work in opposing Senate bills that were drafted to change the professional engineers act. Dave was sure Don's work and encouragement in getting the calls to the Senators helped kill the bill in the Senate. On a similar note, the national committee on government affairs awarded the Illinois Section with the 2004 State Government Relations Award at the Annual ASCE Convention in Baltimore. The Illinois Section is the only section that received the award and the reason they chose our Section is in large part due to Don's efforts.

Newsletter Editor and did a fantastic job at it. Everyone should have noticed that the newsletters always came out around the 1st of the month. Our advertising has increased and the newsletter has received a national award. Bob has performed outstanding work for the Section. Darren Olson has been kind enough to agree to take over the daunting task of Newsletter Editor. Don Wittmer and I have told Darren that he will receive plenty of support from the Section in fulfilling his tasks. Some of you know that Darren completed the Chicago Marathon a couple of weeks ago in an incredible 3 hours and 9 minutes. That in itself is quite an accomplishment. What most of you don't know is that, leading by example, Don Wittmer and I were his pace setters and are to thank for getting him the Boston qualifying time.

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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Zone III Administrator
Michael Cook x6121

**Submission deadline for the
Newsletter is the 10th of the month.**

To all the outgoing technical group chairs and directors, thank you for your time and efforts that were put forth for the Section. To the new technical group chairs and directors, I look forward to working with you and making this a productive year. There are a couple of other people that deserve recognition. Barb Pries has served as the secretary for the section for many years and we hope it continues for a long time. She, Joe Neal and Jim Szczupaj put in long hours to make our Annual Dinner a success. Thank you to Barb, Joe and Jim. Lisa Harbert has finished another year as Web Master. Lisa is probably second to only Don in the hours given to the Section in the past 5 years. She has always helped, including serving as the Newsletter Editor. We wish her well in Houston. Bob Gorski just stepped down as

My goals for the upcoming year are straight-forward. I plan to steward the Section on the path already paved by my predecessors. I am happy to report that a lot of the work has already started.

1. We will work with other Illinois engineering organizations such as the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Illinois Engineering Council (IEC), and the Western Society of Engineers (WSE), to name a few. Work has already begun between ASCE and these agencies to form a new committee to generate even more acronyms than we currently use;

(continued on page 8)

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Metra Service Expansion

—by Aaron Russell, URS Corporation

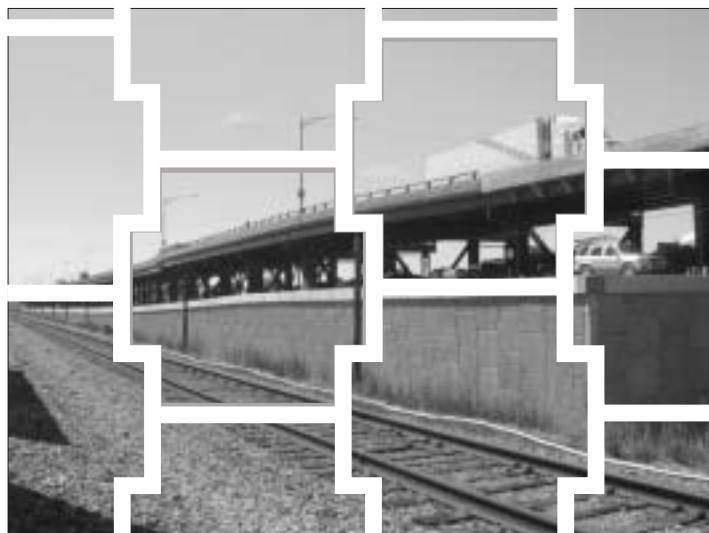
Metra is currently expanding service on many of their commuter lines. Among the commuter lines currently being upgraded are the Union Pacific West Line, South West Service, and the North Central Service Line. These commuter lines are being upgraded with new signaling, new track, double track, and structural improvements.

URS is the overall consultant for the North Central Service Expansion (NCSE) project; the line is a Federal New Start Project that is expanding the service from Chicago to Antioch, IL. Metra operates trains under contract with the Canadian National (CN) railroad, formerly known as the Wisconsin Central. The project is spread out over a total of approximately 40 miles, with most of the work being performed from Franklin Park, IL to Antioch, IL. The total length of the line is 53 miles which makes this Metra's third longest in their system. The cost of the project is \$225.5 million, funded by a mix of federal and state monies. The service expansion project will add another 13.5 miles of second track to the route, along with new signals and train equipment. Included in the project are five bridges for new second main track: Lawrence Avenue in Schiller Park - 9" Concrete CIP deck, Wheeling Drainage Ditch Bridge in Wheeling - Precast prestressed 30" concrete double box beam deck, Indian Creek Bridge in Vernon Hills - Precast prestressed 30" concrete double box beam deck, Bike Path Bridge in Vernon Hills - Precast prestressed 20" concrete beam deck, and the Seavey

Drainage Ditch Bridge in Vernon Hills - 18" CIP concrete deck. New stations and platforms will be located at Franklin Park, Schiller Park, Rosemont, and Grayslake; existing platforms are being extended at ten stations. There are 28 grade crossings improvements involved with the project with 16 part of the NCSE and 12 being performed by the CN railroad. Upon completion, the project will allow Metra to more than double the number of daily trains from 10 up to 22 starting in December 2005. One of the significant areas of improvement is the replacement of the bridge over I-190 going into and out of O'Hare Airport, which is being coordinated with the Illinois Department of Transportation and will allow expansion on the I-190 corridor. Another visible portion of the project is the removal of the existing wooden piers supporting the railroad bridge over Higgins Road in Rosemont, IL.

With the project being federally funded through the New Start Program, there are requirements that were mandated to include very demanding documentation procedures. The main tool being used for the Program Management is the Expedition software program. All of the projects are being tracked through the software and a Metra project specific Expedition manual was developed for all of the New Start projects. The records for five different construction projects are maintained out of a field office with a staff of nine professionals

(continued on page 8)



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Section Activities

Environmental Engineering & Water Resources Group

Monthly Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 9
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: CDM Office
125 S. Wacker Drive
(northeast corner of Wacker and Adams)
Suite 600 – Conference Room
Chicago, IL 60606

Please check the minutes for Holiday Dinner scheduling and congratulations to the incoming officers. For information regarding the EE&WR Group, please contact Group Chair Stephanie Stewart at CBBEL, (847) 823-0500.

Geotechnical Group

Monthly Group Meeting

Topic: McCook Reservoir Grout Test Program
Speaker: William A. Rochford, P.E., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District
Faruk Oksuz, P.E., Black & Veatch Corporation
Date: Monday, November 8
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Erie Café
536 West Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois (312-266-2300)
Cost: 40 with reservations
\$30 Education/Government Employees (with reservations)
\$20 for students (with reservations)
\$45 at the door OR if you call after RSVP date (Make checks payable to "ASCE Geotechnical Group")
RSVP: Via e-mail or phone by Wednesday, November 3rd Drew Ptak (drewptak@geoservicesinc.net or (847)253-3845 ext. 204)

For information regarding the Geotechnical Group please contact Group Chair Drew Patak at drewptak@geoservicesinc.net.

Minority Affairs Committee

Monthly Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 9
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: ARCADIS
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1000
Chicago, IL 60601

To discuss upcoming DBE seminar and partnership with Kenwood Academy. For information regarding the MAC Group please contact Group Chair Tim Scully Granzeier, TGranzeier@arcadis-us.com, 312-263-6703 ext 4109

Transportation Group

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 10
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: to be determined

Monthly Luncheon

Speaker: Joe Lorenzini
Assistant Chief Engineer
Metra Rail
Date: Wednesday, November 17
Time: 11:30 - 1:30
Place: Chicago Athletic Association
12 S. Michigan Ave.
Cost: \$40
RSVP: Robert Gorski at
robert_gorski@urscorp.com

For information regarding the Transportation Group please contact Group Chair Robert Gorski at robert_gorski@urscorp.com or (312) 939-1000

Younger Member Group

Outreach/Volunteer Activity

Date: Saturday, November 6
Time: 9:30 a.m. (approx. 3-4 hours)
Place: H.O.M.E. (Housing Opportunities and Maintenance for the Elderly)
5414B West Roosevelt Rd
Chicago, Illinois 60644
(773) 921-3200

Activity: We need volunteers to come out and help with a great outreach project to "weatherize" the homes of low-income elderly people by installing temporary storm windows that can be reused for years to come. This will make their homes warmer and less drafty during the cold Chicago winter months in addition to keeping their heating cost down. No special skills required! – Training will be provided on day of activity.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kyle Smith by email ksmith@benesch.com or by phone at (312) 565-0450 or (847) 343-2428.

For more information about H.O.M.E or this specific project, please visit the following web-sites:

<http://www.homeseniors.org>
<http://www.homeseniors.org/home9/>

Monthly Group Meeting

Topic: Dan Ryan Reconstruction – CTA Coordination
Speaker: TBD
Date: Thursday, November 18
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Alfred Benesch & Co.
205 N. Michigan Ave., 23rd Floor
Cost: \$12 (\$6 for students)
RSVP: Leo Morand at lmorand@gha-engineers.com

For information regarding the YMG, please contact the Group Chair Yvonne Dekayie at yvonne.dekayie@hdrinc.com or 773-380-7923

Structural Group

The Structural Group will meet at the Greek Islands Restaurant located at 200 S. Halsted. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Zdenek Bazant of Northwestern University who will discuss the size effects in structural designs, which contributed to many structural disasters. For reservations please contact Sudhir Singamsethi at (312)938-0300 or Sudhir.Singamsethi@cte-eng.com. This dinner meeting is scheduled for November 10. For information regarding the Structural Group, please contact Group Chair Art Nowak at Edwards and Kelcey (312) 424-5447 or anowak@ekmail.com.

Urban Planning and Development Group

Monthly Group Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 11
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Chandler's Chop House
401 N. Roselle Road
Schaumburg, IL

Activity: Fall Workshop on ADA Requirements in Site Development

Date: Wednesday, November 10
Registration begins at 7:15
Place: Chandler's Chop House
401 N. Roselle Road
Schaumburg, IL

For information regarding the UP&D Group please contact Group Chair Bill Cussen. Haeger Engineering, 1911 Rohlwing Road, Suite A, Rolling Meadows, IL 60068 bill-c@haegerengineering.com 847 394 6600

2003 Awards *(continued from page 1)*



CITIZEN ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Karl Fry

Karl Fry was born and raised in the Central Illinois farming town of Rochester; graduated from Rochester High School and attended Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. After spending two summers as an intern with the Illinois Department of Transportation, he transferred to the University of Illinois, graduating with a BS in Civil Engineering in 1979. He began his professional career with Metcalf and Eddy in Chicago, working on such projects as the Arlington Heights Road grade separation and several phase I projects for IDOT. He later joined Envirodyne Engineers, where he designed several highway projects and coordinated land acquisition for the North-South Tollway. He completed a Masters degree in Engineering Management at Northwestern University in 1984. Two years later, he was named DuPage County Superintendent of Highways, where he spent the next eight years managing the County's 200-mile system of arterial highways. Notable projects included the extensions of Diehl Road and Winfield Road, widening of numerous county highways from two to four lanes, and implementation of the state's first Transportation Impact Fee Ordinance. Along the way, he received a commission as a civil engineering officer in the Air Force Reserve, eventually rising to the rank of captain.

In 1994, Karl returned to private practice as a Vice President of Knight Architects Engineers Planners in Chicago, managing the firm's public infrastructure facilities group. There, he had varying responsibilities on such projects as the Kennedy Expressway reconstruction and expansion of training facilities at Great Lakes Naval Training Center. Later, he was instrumental in the spin-off of the firm's infrastructure practice as Knight Infrastructure and was named the firm's first President. He is currently the western regional manager for Robinson Engineering, Ltd., as well as overseeing transportation planning projects firm-wide.

Karl's volunteer public service began in Rochester and hasn't let up since he became an Eagle Scout. He has served in several capacities as a scout leader and youth sports coach; and was an elected precinct committeeman. In 1989, Karl was named by then-Mayor Margaret Price of Naperville to the City's Transportation Management Advisory Committee and has chaired that group since 1990. In 1999, Mayor George Pradel appointed Karl to the Naperville Plan Commission and named him Chairman of that body in 2003. He is considering a run for local elective office when his term on the Plan Commission expires in 2005.

Karl is an active member of ASCE and the American Institute of Certified Planners, and is a Licensed Professional Engineer in Illinois and several other states.

YOUNG GOVERNMENT CIVIL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Nicholas Kottmeyer

Nicholas Kottmeyer is the Principal Environmental Engineer for the DuPage County Department of Public Works in Wheaton, Illinois. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the States of Illinois and



Wisconsin specializing in water resources and wastewater projects. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Mr. Kottmeyer currently heads the Drainage Division and Engineering Permitting Division with the County of DuPage. He is responsible for the development, design and implementation of all drainage projects throughout the County of DuPage. His experience includes all phases of civil engineering projects ranging from planning through construction, hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, stormwater management plans, drainage studies, wastewater treatment plant design, sanitary sewer design, and potable water system design. Since 2000, Mr. Kottmeyer has been accountable for the implementation of 195 separate drainage projects throughout the County of DuPage as part of the 5-year, \$22 million Drainage Bond issue. Cumulatively, these drainage projects provided flood relief for over 1200 residential and commercial properties. Mr. Kottmeyer and his staff are also responsible for the engineering review and certification of new and in-fill development as it relates to stormwater engineering and special management areas.

Mr. Kottmeyer serves as the Chair to the Municipal Engineers Technical Advisory Committee. This committee is made up of representatives from every community throughout DuPage County that has adopted the DuPage County Stormwater Ordinance. This group is responsible for all Ordinance revision recommendations and overall

(continued on page 6)

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2003 Awards *(continued from page 5)*

policy interpretations provided to the Stormwater Committee and County Board.

Nicholas and his wife, Brandie, have two children, Mason and Logan.

GOVERNMENT CIVIL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Wally Kos



Mr. Kos is the Superintendent of Highways for the County of Cook, a position he assumed in early 1998. The Highway Department has jurisdiction of approximately 600 centerline miles and has 500 employees consisting of a professional staff of engineers and technicians as well as maintenance personnel. The Highway Department, in the second largest county in the nation, has an operating budget in excess of \$30 Mil. with nearly a \$90 Mil. annual construction

program. In his current role, Mr. Kos oversees the planning, design, construction and maintenance activities along the County highway system.

Mr. Kos's entire career has been in the public sector. Upon graduation, he accepted a position with the Illinois Department of Transportation in 1971. Over a span of 25 years, assignments included working in construction, design and programming. His last position at IDOT District 1 was the Bureau Chief of Programming.

Mr. Kos graduated with a B. S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He has a MBA degree, and is a registered Profession Engineer in Illinois.

He is a member of several professional organizations and is active in a number of committees as a Director to the Illinois Association of County Engineers and to the University of Illinois-Civil and Environmental Engineering Alumni Association. Mr. Kos is married with three children.

YOUNG CIVIL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Darren Olson



Darren Olson is a Water Resources Engineer with Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd. (CBBEL) where he has worked since 1998. He obtained his Bachelors and Masters of Science in Civil Engineering degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1997 and 1998, respectively. He also earned his Masters of Business Administration from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management in 2003. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Illinois and Iowa.

Some of Darren's past projects include the stormwater and floodplain permitting for the \$4 Million in capital improvement projects

at The Morton Arboretum, the design of the Pottawattomi Park Flood Control Facility in Tinley Park, IL, the Addison Creek Tributaries Watershed Study in Bensenville, IL, the Blackberry Creek Tributary D Watershed Study in Elburn, IL and the permitting of the Bethany Road Flood Control Facility in Sycamore, IL. He also performs stormwater and floodplain reviews for the Village of Hawthorn Woods and the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission. Darren has also taught several seminars on hydrologic and hydraulic modeling software.

Darren has been an active member of ASCE since 1998. He has been the Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Chair and Chair of the Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Technical Group and is currently finishing his 2-year term as Director of the Illinois Section. He was also the Awards Chair in 2003 and is beginning a 2-year term as the Communications Chair. Darren actively participates in ASCE functions such as the River Rescue Day, Beach Sweep and the Future Cities Competition.

Darren recently moved with his wife, Amy, to Roscoe Village on the north side of the city. He has already taken an active role in his community by joining the Parks and Streets Committee of the Roscoe Village Neighbors Association. He also volunteers his time by teaching environmental science and pollution prevention to Chicago Public School 3rd Graders on Earth Day. In his free time, Darren is an avid runner and will be competing in his 5th Chicago Marathon on October 11th this year.

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CIVIL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Nicholas Textor



Nick Textor is a Vice President of Consoer Townsend Envirodyne Engineers, Inc., Chicago and the Stormwater Practice Leader for the company. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the University of Notre Dame, and a Master's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison with post-graduate work in Geo-environmental engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology. He is a registered professional engineer in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan, a Professional Hydrologist certified by the

American Institute of Hydrology, and a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). His experience includes over 30 years work in the fields of hydrology and hydraulics engineering in the United States and abroad. His career includes assignments in both the public and private sectors in both design and modeling. He has authored papers in wetland hydrology, urban hydrology, riverine hydraulics, water quality, and dam rehabilitation. Nick taught fluid mechanics and mathematics for the Engineering Intern review course at Purdue University - Calumet. Nick is a past Chair of the Illinois Section Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Division, a Past President of the Illinois Section and a past District 8 Director.

Nick and his wife Nancy live in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood where on more than one occasion Nick has been spotted in the friendly confines of Wrigley Field.

OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE YEAR AWARD – UNDER \$5 MILLION

Fredehagen Park



Located along the West Branch of the DuPage River in downtown Naperville, Illinois the site of Fredehagen Park was once the home of the Naperville Creamery and Cock Robin Ice Cream Company. The

1.2-acre prime commercial site was donated to the City of Naperville to be developed as a gateway to the community. The park is named in honor of the Fredenhagen family, founders of the Cock Robin Ice Cream Company.

In March of 2002 the City of Naperville hired Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) to prepare plans to develop the property as a park connecting the east and west legs of the very popular Naperville Riverwalk, enhance the downtown business district with open space, provide a community gathering place and gateway to the City. Allen L. Kracower and Associates (ALK) worked very closely with CBBEL developing and designing the landscape features and plantings.

CBBEL developed and designed the 1.2 acre park meeting all applicable City and County building and storm water codes and requirements. Value engineering of the various site amenities pertaining to material type, aesthetics and ease of construction played a major role in meeting the City's \$1.8 million engineering and construction budget. ALK assisted in the architectural design of the parks amenities and provided the necessary expertise on landscaping and aesthetic features that the City and Riverwalk Commission were expecting to see once the park was completed.

The Park officially opened on May 22, 2004 with a dedication ceremony. Recently, Fredenhagen Park and the Naperville Exchange Club were selected as the National Outstanding Service Project of the year by the National Exchange Club. Through practical civil engineering design and cooperation with the City of Naperville, local residents, and businesses a very valuable piece of commercial real estate was created into a community gathering place for all to enjoy.

OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE YEAR AWARD – OVER \$5 MILLION

Gerald Ratner Athletics Center

The University of Chicago Ratner Athletics Center is a \$42 million state-of-the-art athletics facility with 150,000 square feet of space for health, fitness, and sporting activity. Designed by internationally renowned architects Cesar Pelli & Associates, in collaboration with OWP/P, the project is a first-of-its-kind asymmetrically supported cable-stayed structure with multiple levels of splaying cables. This innovative design solution creatively fulfills the programmatic requirements for large volume column-free spaces on a restrictive site, while accommodating an aggressive construction schedule and still satisfying the University's objectives for high quality "signature" architecture. Expression of the structure, external to the body of the building, was also considered essential to the design solution, since it is a characteristic of the Gothic style architecture that dominates the campus.

The structural solution achieves the column-free space by gracefully supporting the S-shaped roofs of the gymnasium and Olympic-sized natatorium with steel cables and 10-story tall composite masts that are filled with high strength concrete. The asymmetrically located masts support the roof loads from the "back" of the structure, allowing the community to experience the facility through large expanses of glass that abut the property lines and entry plaza. Wind tunnel testing was performed on the structure to confirm cable frequencies and structure resonance were properly considered. The tensioned cables brace the masts at various elevations, allowing the thin tapered masts to serve as beacons; achieving the University's desire for a dramatic campus landmark. The use of splayed cables creates a uniform roof structure that is only 33 inches deep over the 160-foot spans, and exposed on the interi-

(continued on page 8)

President's Notes *(continued from page 2)*

2. We will coordinate with public agencies in Northeastern Illinois to promote the Civil Engineering profession and improve the relationships where necessary. In discussions at the Annual Dinner with IDOT, DuPage County, Cook County Highway Department and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, I was assured that for all ASCE members submitting permit applications, the review time will be cut in half.

3. We will continue the work against unionization of our technical services;

4. We will work with the student chapters at Northwestern, UIC and IIT. We were pleased to have a large group of students from both Northwestern and UIC at the Annual Dinner.

5. Lastly, but of equal or greater importance, we will support our technical groups. The technical groups are the arms and legs of the organization. It is amazing to review all they have accomplished this past year. There are very few other sections in the country that can boast the accomplishments that the Illinois Section brings about each year. The activities range from the Transportation Group hosting Jeff Dailey of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority last month to discuss the Tollway I-pass expansion; to the Younger Member Group organizing an outing to Ravinia; to the Structural and Geotechnical Groups having a technical presentation by a recognized leader in the field; to the always popular and standing room only crowd for "Introduction to FEQ Hydraulic Modeling" organized by the Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Group. Thank you to all who attended the Annual Dinner on October 13 and congratulations to all the award winners and life time members.

Metra Service Expansion

(continued from page 3)

along with supervision of the daily activities, overall schedule and meetings of the entire line.

The coordination aspects of the project are challenging, there are construction contracts for the civil and signal improvements that have different general contractors and various subcontractors. Due to the length of the line, numerous agencies, counties, cities and villages are encountered. These include the Illinois Department of Transportation, Cook County Highway Department, Lake County Division of Transportation, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, United States Army Corp of Engineers, Federal Railroad Administration, and all municipalities within the line from the City of Chicago, Franklin Park, Schiller Park, Des Plaines, Prospect Heights, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Prairie View, Vernon Hills, Mundelein, Prairie Crossing, Grays Lake, Round Lake Beach, Lake Villa, and Antioch. Daily coordination is needed with most agencies due to the nature of the project and the complexity of the work, weekly meetings are held related to the civil work, signal work, and with the owners.

2003 Awards *(continued from page 7)*

or of the building. The large loads from the masts are transferred to the soil through a layer of soft clay, using ground improvements that consist of triple-fluid jet grouting, a subgrade stabilization technique developed in Europe 30 years ago, but used for the first time in Chicago on this project. The cable-stayed solution, along with a simple, yet creative, cable erection sequence reduced the amount of shoring required, construction time, and overall project cost.



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Illinois Section News & Secretary Report

O C T O B E R 2 0 0 4

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 September 2004 monthly report, General Ledger Trial Balance, Income Statement and Aged Receivables Report were discussed and approved.

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 had September dinner meeting on "Geotechnical Failures". In October the group will be participating in the 88th Annual Illinois Section Awards Dinner at the Hilton Chicago. The next meeting is in November and the topic will be "McCook Reservoir Grout Test Program" and the speakers are Mr. William A. Rochford of US Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District and Mr. Faruk Oksuz of Black & Veatch Corporation.

Structural Group scheduled the dinner meeting on September 15th at the Como Restaurant, Chicago and to the Group's surprise the Como Restaurant was out of business and closed without any notice or courtesy call to the Group. The Group instantly had to make other arrangements for the dinner meeting at Greek Town. In October the group will be participating in the 88th Annual Illinois Section Awards Dinner at the Hilton Chicago.

The Structural group is also planning the Bi-Annual Lecture Series to be held in spring 2005. The down town public library is reserved and the dates are March 17, 24, 31 and April 7.

Environmental Engineering & Water Resources Group had September monthly group meeting at the CDM office. The group participated in Lake Michigan beach cleanup held in September and had an FEQ class in September with 11 attendees. In October the group will be participating in the 88th Annual Illinois Section Awards Dinner at the Hilton Chicago.

Urban Planning & Development Group planned the "ADA Accessibility-For Building and Infrastructure Design" Seminar and is scheduled on November 10th. Director Clayton talked about the MWRDGC Permitting Seminar to be offered this year at the request of MWRDGC and he will take the lead.

Transportation Group in September had a luncheon program and the speaker was Mr. Jeff

Daily, Chief Engineer, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority. A joint Luncheon program with the American Society of Landscape Architects will be held in October at Chicago Athletic Association, Chicago. The topic will be Context Sensitive Solutions and the speaker will be Michael Moss, Policy Advisor to the Secretary, IDOT. The speaker for the next month's luncheon program will be Mr. Joe Lorenzini, Assistant Chief Engineer, Metra Rail. The National Highway Institute Workzone safety course is scheduled on November 12th at IDOT District 1 (6PDH).

Younger Member group in September had their 2004-2005 planning meeting, and also a "Cubs Outing". In October the group will be participating in the 88th Annual Illinois Section Awards Dinner at the Hilton Chicago.

Committee Reports

The Communications Committee Chair reported that the November feature article will be provided by Joe Neal, Awards Committee Chair and Transportation Group will provide the secondary article. Darren Olson is the Incoming Newsletter Editor. Bob Gorski has completed the 2-year term and the board applauds for Bob's work. All groups and committee chairs should email their monthly activity reports to Darren Olson, Editor; Webmaster and Incoming Secretary Whitlock. The November newsletter deadline is Monday morning, October 11th. The 2004-2005 newsletter deadlines will be distributed by Darren. The webmaster position is being filled and the website shall be updated regularly.

President Wittmer talked about the Section Awards to be presented at the Annual Illinois Section Awards Dinner at the Hilton Chicago.

Old Business

The Illinois Section ASCE 88th Annual Awards Dinner is on Wednesday, October 13, 2004 at the Hilton Chicago on south Michigan Avenue. President Wittmer sent letters to the ASCE members and engineering organizations to support and donate for this function. ASCE Zone III Vice President Bob Thorn and District 8 Director Tom Walther will be attending.

The 2006 ASCE National Conference to be held in Chicago. The dates are Wednesday, September 27th thru Saturday, September 30th. Mr. Nicholas Textor, Past District 8 Director will be the coordinating chair of the Conference Committee. There will be a need for many sub-committees for which the Groups will be asked to help out significantly.

President Wittmer reminded about the 2003-2004 Annual Report to be submitted to the National. The due date is November 30th.

President Wittmer attended the District 8 Council meeting held last month in Duluth, Minnesota. He will be the Chair for the 2004-2005 Council and the meeting will be held in Chicago in 2005.

The ASCE National Conference to be held in Baltimore from October 20 through 23, 2004. President Wittmer, President-Elect Burke and Director Whitlock will be attending the conference. Also, the Council of Presidents and Leadership Meeting will be at Baltimore on October 22, 2004.

Treasurer Johnson prepared a preliminary initial draft budget for 2004-2005. The board will discuss next month and finalize the budget.

(continued on page 10)

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News & Secretary Report *(continued from page 9)*

The board members represented ASCE Illinois Section at the Tollway Public Hearings and spoke about Illinois Section Resolution 04-01 to support the long range plan of ISTHA.

New Business

The new committee chairs positions to be filled for 2004-2005. Past President John O'Holleran will chair the committee for the ASCE Illinois Infrastructure Report Card. Director Moore will chair the Awards Committee.

The Committee on Government Affairs, ASCE National announced that the Illinois Section has been selected to receive the 2004 State Government 2004 Relations Award for its outstanding work in opposing legislation that would have changed the Professional Engineer's Act in Illinois. The Illinois Section is the only ASCE Section selected to receive a government relations award this year that will be presented at the National Conference in Baltimore.

President Wittmer and President-Elect Burke talked about the 2005 ASCE Zone III Workshop (formerly known as the Zone Leadership Conference) to be held February 25-27, 2005 at St. Louis. The Section's three incoming Directors will be attending the Workshop. Two Director's expenses are paid for by National and the third by the Section.

The Illinois Engineering Council coordinates with "Illinois Engineer Journal" in conjunction with 2005 National Engineers Week activities in Chicago. The board approved to place a quarter page advertisements in the Illinois Engineer Journal 2005 for the ASCE Illinois Section "150 Years of Engineering Excellence Book".

The office of the Illinois Section will be moving to a new location on Michigan Avenue in December. The address will be 645 N. Michigan Avenue, 5th Floor.

—By *Abdul M. Khan, Secretary*

Calendar of Events

2004

- Nov. 6** YMG Volunteer Activity — Weatherizing the Homes of Low-Income Elderly People
- Nov. 8** Geotechnical Dinner Meeting at Erie Street Café. The topic is McCook Reservoir Grout Test Program by Bill Rochford-USACE and Faruk Oksuz-Black and Veatch Corp.
- Nov. 9** Environmental Engineering and Water Resources Group monthly Meeting
- Nov. 9** Minority Affairs Committee Meeting
- Nov. 10** Fall Workshop on ADA Requirements in Site Development 7:15 p.m. at Chandler's Chop House in Schaumburg, IL
- Nov. 10** Transportation Group Executive Committee Meeting
- Nov. 10** Structural Group meeting at the Greek Islands Restaurant located at 200 S. Halsted with guest speaker Dr. Zdenek Bazant of Northwestern University
- Nov. 11** UP&D Monthly Meeting
- Nov. 17** Transportation Group Luncheon with Joe Lorenzini of Metra 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Chicago Athletic Association
- Nov. 18** YMG Monthly Dinner Meeting

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ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS