

### AWARD RECIPIENTS TO BE HONORED AT THE 33RD ANNUAL NJ SECTION AWARDS DINNER FRIDAY, MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2007

#### NEW JERSEY SECTION PRESENTS 2007 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

##### CIVIL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

**Joseph J. Skupien, P.E., P.P.**

*President, Storm Water Management Consulting, LLC*

Joseph J. Skupien is named by the NJ section of ASCE as the 2007 Civil Engineer of the Year. Mr. Skupien is the President of Storm Water Management Consulting, LLC. He has over 34 of years of experience in the field of Storm water management. Mr. Skupien is widely recognized within the NJ engineering community as one of the most knowledgeable Engineers in storm water management practices. Mr. Skupien's contribution to fellow engineers as an educator and mentor earned him prominent and immanent recognition by his peers. Mr. Skupien's achievements as a consultant and educator in promoting the use of best storm water management practices have earned him great respect in the industry by NJDEP regulators and the civil engineering community.

Mr. Skupien started his own consulting company in 2002 offering a wide range of storm water management services to state and local governments as well as other consulting engineering firms. Mr. Skupien's contribution to continuing professional education includes offering several workshops and seminars to educate civil engineers about best practices and watershed modeling.

Mr. Skupien holds a BS degree in Civil Engineering from Rutgers university of Engineering. He is a licensed professional engineer and planner.

##### EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

**Husam S. Najm, P.E., Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor, Rutgers University*

Husam S. Najm is named the 2007 ASCE NJ section Educator of the Year. Dr. Najm is an associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Rutgers University. He joined the Rutgers Civil and Environmental department in 2000. Prior to joining Rutgers University, he was a senior structural engineer and a technical manager with T.Y. Lin International in Boston, Massachusetts. At T.Y. Lin, Dr. Najm had several years of practical

experience in prestressed concrete and steel bridge design, in particular, the \$12 Billion Central Artery/Tunnel Project in Boston. He was involved in all phases of bridge design, detailing, construction, and rating. Dr. Najm has an extensive experience in designing, detailing, construction, and rating of pretensioned and post-tensioned concrete bridges. He is also experienced in computer modeling of bridge structures. Dr. Najm was also heavily involved in the design, detailing, and construction of deep foundations. In addition, Dr. Najm has significant experience in experimental work on the properties of high performance fiber reinforced concrete. He has authored and co-authored several publications in this area. Dr. Najm holds a BS from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, an MS from Michigan State University-East Lansing, Michigan and a Ph. D from The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Michigan

##### GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

**Richard T. Hammer**

*Assistant Commissioner, Capital Program Management  
New Jersey Department of Transportation*

On March 1, 2006, Commissioner of Transportation Kris Kolluri, Esq. appointed Richard T. Hammer as Assistant Commissioner of Capital Program Management (CPM). As Assistant Commissioner for CPM, Mr. Hammer is responsible for delivering the annual Capital Program, as well as managing six (6) Divisions: Right of Way and Access Management; Environmental Resources and Context Sensitive Solutions; Project Management; Capital Program Support; Design Services; and Construction and Materials - a combined workforce of approximately 1,400 employees.

Mr. Hammer began his career with the Department in May of 1982 after receiving his BS in Civil Engineering from Rutgers University. His 25 year career with the Department includes 14 years with the Bureau of Structural Evaluation in the former Division of Bridge Design. In 1996, Mr. Hammer was promoted to Project Manager in the newly formed Division of Project Management. In 2000, Mr. Hammer took a two year mobility assignment as Assistant to the Director, Division of Project Management, prior to being appointed Program

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dan Brammell

Thanks to the Central Jersey Branch Younger Member Group for organizing and running the very successful Region 1 2007 NERYMC Conference in Princeton in January. Rich Pascual and Sarah Weissman and their support group deserve a thank you from the NJ Section and the other Region 1 Sections.



There is an important issue that is pressing forward that will affect all of our members, companies, and owners. That is the proposed rules change to Mandate Continuing Professional Competency (Continuing Education Credits) in the State of New Jersey. Additional information can be obtained by contacting me at [dbrammell@aol.com](mailto:dbrammell@aol.com) and I can forward the documents we have received to date.

A brief synopsis follows:

The NJSPE Board of Trustees is currently soliciting comments from NJSPE members regarding the issue of Mandatory Continuing Professional Competency (MCPC). The specific draft proposal for NJ licensees is based on the Model Law put forth by NCEES and modified to reflect the law currently in place in our neighboring state of NY and what we know about the expected regulations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This proposal would require the completion of 24 professional development hours (PDH) over the span of each two-year license renewal period. The model law allows for a variety of options to fulfill these hours. In addition to traditional courses, this proposal allows for web seminars, in-house courses, professional or technical presentations at meetings or conferences, etc... The model law is aimed at providing consistency in MCPC requirements across state borders, and offering comity across state lines for those licensed in more than one state. The proposal also allows for overlap with other professional licenses, such as a licensed surveyors

The Annual Awards Dinner is May 4th and we need the support of our members and sponsoring/attending engineering firms. It is always a great time and is a good opportunity to meet with fellow members and friends.

Regards,  
Dan Brammell



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## 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NEW JERSEY ASCE

### NJ SECTION

#### Friday, May 4, 2006:

NJ Section Awards Dinner  
Location: Woodbridge Hilton  
Time: 6PM - 11PM

### NORTH JERSEY BRANCH

#### Thursday, April 19, 2007

NJIT STG Half Day Seminar - "Design of Curved Girder Bridges"

#### Thursday, April 24, 2007

TTG Half Day Seminar at Newark Club - Four Topics & Dinner

#### Thursday, May 17, 2007

Annual Awards Dinner  
Newark Club  
6:00 PM

#### Thursday, May 17, 2007

Order of the Engineer Induction Ceremony  
(*Younger Member Group*)  
6:00 PM

#### Saturday, May 19, 2007

*Younger Member Group*  
Park and River Cleanup with Hackensack River Keeper  
Morning

#### June/July, 2007

STG - Tour of Steel Fabrication Plant  
YMG - Rafting on the Delaware River

### CENTRAL JERSEY BRANCH

#### Tuesday, April 17, 2007

High Def 3-D Laser Scanner  
Victorian Manor  
6:00 PM

#### Tuesday, May 15, 2007

Central Jersey Branch Awards Dinner  
6:00 PM  
Crown Plaza

### SOUTH JERSEY BRANCH

#### Friday, May 11, 2007

Annual Awards Luncheon  
11:30 AM to 2 PM  
Windham Hotel

#### Friday, July 6, 2007

YMF Annual Golf Outing  
Noon Start  
Rancocas Golf Club  
Willingboro, New Jersey



## 2007 STRUCTURES CONGRESS

Earn up to 21 PDHs at the 2007 Structures Congress! The 2007 SEI Structures Congress is taking place May 16-19, 2007 in Long Beach, California. At the Congress, you'll be able to select from 9 concurrent tracks containing a variety of informative technical, business, and practice sessions. Register now for one of our pre-congress seminars (Seismic Provisions of ASCE 7-05; Wind Load Provisions of ASCE 7-05; Sustainable Structures; ATC-20 Post-Earthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings) and earn 4 or 6 PDHs; register for the congress and earn 15 more. Visit [www.structurescongress.org](http://www.structurescongress.org) to view our session matrix, to find out more about Long Beach, and to register.

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Manager in 2002. From 2004 to March of 2006 Mr. Hammer held the position of Director, Division of Project Management, responsible for the management and delivery of the Department's Capital Construction Program. Under Mr. Hammer's leadership the division delivered two of the largest programs in the Department's history in Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006

## SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE

**Frank H. Lehr, P.E.**

*Chairman and Founder of Frank H. Lehr Associates*

Frank H. Lehr, P.E. is the recipient of the 2007 Service to the People Award. Mr. Lehr is the Chairman and founder of Frank H. Lehr Associates of East Orange, NJ. A consulting engineering business founded in 1957. The firm is celebrating its 50th year of excellent service. Mr. Lehr has not only striven for excellence in the profession of Civil Engineering, but has also excelled in the service to the people of the state of NJ in general and the people of Union County in particular. Mr. Lehr has been involved in politics since 1963 when he served five consecutive years as a representative for the city of Summit, NJ. In 1975 Mr. Lehr was elected mayor of the city of Summit and served in this position for five years. Moving on Frank ran for the office of Union County Freeholder and held the position from 1981 to 1983 and from 1992 to 1997. Mr. Lehr exemplifies the citizen engineer who gets involved with his community and helps the people of NJ with his expertise as an engineer and as an elected official.

Frank H. Lehr is a fellow of ASCE and a licensed professional engineer. He holds a BS from Penn State University and an MS from NJIT/Newark College of Engineering

## MANAGER OF THE YEAR

**Stephen DePalma, P.E., P.P., CME**

*Chairman & CEO, Schoor DePalma Inc.*

Steven DePalma P.E. is the recipient of ASCE 2007 New Jersey Section Excellence in Management Award. Mr. DePalma has devoted himself tirelessly to the engineering profession, the management and staff of Schoor DePalma and the community at large for the last 35 years. Throughout Mr. DePalma's tenure as Chairman and CEO of Schoor DePalma, he has constantly benchmarked the best practices of other engineering and consulting firms to drive his firm to be one of the best in the Mid-Atlantic regions. Schoor DePalma has achieved its bold strategic goals by consistently improving itself and analyzing the company's business processes through introspective review, partnerships with outside consultants, correspondence with personal contacts, and membership involvement in various regional and industry associations. The recent acquisition of CMX one of the largest civil engineering firm in Phoenix Arizona have placed Schoor DePalma on the map as a national firm. Mr. DePalma's ultimate vision is to position his company as more than simply a provider of engineering and consulting services. He believes that Schoor DePalma's true position in the Mid-Atlantic regions and in the southwest is to enhance the quality of life in the regions. It is this belief - along with his strong leadership and solid vision -

that has created exceptional value for the firm's clients, employees, and community.

Mr. DePalma holds a BS in Civil Engineering from NJIT/Newark College of Engineering. He is a licensed professional engineer and planner and a certified municipal engineer.

## YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

**Andrés M. Roda, P.E., M.ASCE**

*Project Manager, French and Parrello Associates, P.A.*

Mr. Andrés Roda has over 8 years experience in bridge and roadway design. He was recently promoted to Project Manager at his firm, French and Parrello Associates, P.A. His career began in 1998 after graduating from Rutgers University with a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Working full time attending classes at Rutgers University, Mr. Roda earned a MS degree in Structural Engineering in May of 2000. Two years later, at the age of 24, Mr. Roda was licensed to practice Professional Engineering in the State of New Jersey.

Mr. Roda has been active with ASCE for over 3 years. In this short time, Mr. Roda has served in the Central Jersey Branch as Treasurer, President-Elect, President and Newsletter Editor. Mr. Roda has also served in the NJ Section as Vice-President and is the incoming Section President.

Mr. Roda's involvement in ASCE extends regionally as well as nationally. During ASCE's Governance Restructuring, Mr. Roda served as a member of the Region 1 Formation Team, representing Younger Members and the NJ Section. He currently serves as Corresponding Member for the National Committee on Younger Members.

## ASCE MISSION

To Provide Essential value to  
our members,  
their careers,  
our partners,  
and the public through:

- ◆ Developing Leadership
- ◆ Advancing Technology
- ◆ Advocating Lifelong Learning, and
- ◆ Promoting the Profession



## ENGINEERS WEEK 2007

*By Christopher A. Coke  
Engineers Week 2007 – Co-Chair*

On behalf of American Society of Civil Engineers **New Jersey Section I** would like to say thank everyone who participated in Engineers Week 2007. Due to the renovations being done at the Liberty Science Center, members took it upon themselves to visit schools, malls and programs around the state to promote Engineers Week. With America continuing to become more technologically advanced, the need for a highly skilled work force is more important than ever. Therefore it is imperative that those of us who are practice in the science and engineering fields to continue to bring that reality to light.

For a number of year ASCE-NJ has been a driving force in bringing the importance of science and engineering to the public through Engineers Week. By working with other organizations such as the New Jersey chapters of the National Society of Professional Engineers, Society of Black Engineers and the Institute of Transportation Engineers in addition to local colleges, ASCE has continued to improve on the effectiveness of the Engineers Week program and we expect next year to be no different. We're looking forward to working with the Liberty Science Center and due to our successful programs in the past, they too are eager to team up for future Engineers Week programs.

We encourage everyone to continue to create relationships with school boards and schools in your areas so that we can educate our children throughout the year. We look forward to continue working together to make sure we're able to expose all of our youth to a world that is better because of the contributions of engineers. We look forward to having you celebrate Engineers Week with us in 2008.

## THE SOUTH JERSEY BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS (ASCE)

The **South Jersey Branch** of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), as part Engineer's Week 2007 (February 16 - 24), participated in engineering activities to inform high school and college students about the civil engineering profession. This year, as in the past, engineers volunteered their knowledge, skills, and time to mentor students and took part in various presentations and student competitions.

Each year the South Jersey Branch contributes to Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council which plans events throughout South Jersey and the Philadelphia region. The week long schedule of exciting engineering events culminates with a Gala Awards Banquet to honor outstanding engineers and their achievements. Our own Branch Board member and Rowan graduate David Thatcher had to relinquish his 2006 Young Engineer of the Year title to the 2007 Young Engineers of the Year, Jeremy Colello and Keith Yamatani. Joseph Viscuso of Vollmer Associates was named Delaware Valley Engineer of the year 2007. Congratulations to all award winners!

This year the Awards Banquet was celebrated at Rowan University, the home of the South Jersey Branch's adopted ASCE Student Chapter. This was the first time the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council held the event in South Jersey. The South Jersey Branch took pride the fact that Rowan University was chosen for the banquet. Rowan only eleven years ago began their engineering program and their graduates are starting to have an impact throughout the Delaware Valley region. The University promotes ASCE among its students and is quickly earning a great reputation among the South Jersey engineering community. The event was a complete success!



National Engineers Week was February 18 to 24. The **North Jersey Branch** YMG hosted a table at the Jersey Gardens Mall on Sunday, February 18 and Saturday, February 24 to promote engineering to parents and children. The Jersey Gardens table location was ideal! Located closely to a mall entrance, the YMG volunteers were consistently busy with mobs of people interested in learning more about engineering. While parents learned about possible careers in engineering from our volunteers and brochures, their children were eagerly assembling marshmallows, gum drops, toothpicks and straws to make miniature houses, domes, bridges and other structures, with guidance from the volunteers. As children approached the table, the volunteers could hear the words, "wow!" and "cool!" come from children's mouths. Granted, it was just marshmallows and gumdrops, but they were using engineering principles. It was a great event! Thank you to all the volunteers for helping to make this event so successful and helping us reach so many people!

NEW JERSEY SECTION PRESENTS 2007 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers-NJ Section
ANNOUNCING THE 33rd ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER
Friday, May 4, 2007

Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Avenue South, Iselin, NJ 08830 (732) 494-4964
(Exit 131A on Garden State Parkway)

Dinner Program:

Reception (Cash Bar) & hors d'oeuvres .....6:00 PM
Welcome.....7:00 PM
Dinner.....7:15 PM
Awards.....8:00 PM
Entertainment & Social Time with Music.....9:15-11:00 PM

Ticket and Sponsorship Costs:

Price Per Person.....\$75
Table of 10 (Includes recognition in program).....\$900
Table of 10 (Non sponsorship).....\$750
Sponsorship of the Cocktail Reception.....\$250
Sponsorship of the Dinner.....\$150

Dinner Choices: A - Filet Mignon.
B - Chicken Aurora
C - Filet of Norwegian Salmon
Vegetarian available upon request.

Reservations and your check, made payable to "ASCE Central Jersey Branch" must be returned by April 30, 2007 to:

Peter Singhofen, T&M Associates, 11 Tindall Road, Middletown, NJ 07748
E-mail: PeterSinghofen@TandMAssociates.com
Phone: 732-671-6400

ASCE 33RD ANNUAL AWARD DINNER
Friday, May 4, 2007
American Society of Civil Engineers - NJ Section

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ calculated as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsorship at \$250 each (Sponsorship of the Cocktail Reception) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsorship at \$150 each (Recognition in program) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_ Table of 10 at \$900 each (Includes recognition in program) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_ Table of 10 at \$750 each (Non sponsorship) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Reservations at \$75 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Firm \_\_\_\_\_
Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Dinner Choices: A - Filet Mignon, B - Chicken Aurora, C - Filet of Norwegian Salmon or Vegetarian available upon request.)

Table with 4 columns: NAME, Meal (Circle One), NAME, Meal (Circle One). Rows 1-10 for guest information.