



# Official Newsletter

for the  
Pittsburgh Chapter



## Association for Bridge Construction & Design

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### President's Message

It is March, and I am sure many of our members are planning their warm weather activities.

Laura Volle, the Newsletter Editor, has decided to step down from this portfolio at the end of the 2007-2008 Season. Her efforts as Editor will be sorely missed. On behalf of the Membership, I would like to thank Laura for her efforts in bringing our news and announcements to you.

The ABCD golf outing will be on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at the Cedarbrook Golf Course. Plan early as there are many events of this nature, and we would love to see you at the ABCD outing.

Our Awards Dinner will be at the end of May, and the submissions are due mid-March. We celebrate the best of the region during this dinner, and if you do not participate, your project and all who contributed towards its excellence, cannot get the deserved recognition.

Our involvement with Community Affairs, lead by Nikki Bedillion, will be at the Science Center on Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> to participate in "The 69<sup>th</sup> Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair" (PRSEF). The Association is donating \$500 towards this event. Our donation contributes towards the running costs as well as two student awards.

This year, the ABCD Seminar will consist of a field trip. Planning is underway and we are investigating two major projects in the area, the Allegheny River Bridge <http://www.paturnpike.com/ConstructionProjects/arb/index.htm> and the North Shore Light Rail Project <http://www.portauthority.org/PAAC/News/CapitalProjects/NorthShoreConnector/tabid/281/Default.aspx>. The field trip will probably be late spring or early summer, but do keep a lookout for an announcement. If you have a preference to visit either one of these, or would like to know more about either, please let me know via email: [korvink@abcdpittsburgh.org](mailto:korvink@abcdpittsburgh.org). Both projects are very interesting and opinions from the Membership would help steer our decision one way or the other.

We will host the last of our speakers for the 2007-2008 Season later this month. We are planning next Season's dinner meetings and as always, any suggestions from our membership are welcome.

We are in need of members to fill committee vacancies and become involved in the operations of ABCD. I would love to hear from you if you are interested.

As always, we invite you as a member to share and discuss your ideas, concerns, and suggestions with us.

There will probably be just a little more snow to shovel through before we see the sun .....

Sjaan Korvink, Ph.D., P.E.  
President, ABCD Pittsburgh Chapter

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## March Meeting

# "THE MEDIA'S UNCIVIL TREATMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERS"

**JOE GRATA**  
**PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE TRANSPORTATION  
REPORTER**

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2008

Time: Social at 5:00 PM; Dinner at 6:00 PM; Program at 7:00 PM

Place: Four Points Sheraton Pittsburgh North  
910 Sheraton Drive, Mars PA

Cost: \$25.00 for Members of ABCD  
\$30.00 for Non-members of ABCD  
Pay by cash or check at the door

Contact: John Tkacs at  
[john.tkacs@stvinc.com](mailto:john.tkacs@stvinc.com)

RSVP: Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon  
RSVP to Program Chair John Tkacs at [john.tkacs@stvinc.com](mailto:john.tkacs@stvinc.com).

Those received after the deadline will not be accepted or acknowledged. Please note that RSVPs cancelled after 10:00 AM on March 25<sup>th</sup> or not honored will be billed.



## ABCD Annual Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the annual ABCD Awards. The awards will be presented on May 22, 2008 at our final meeting of the season. If you are interested in submitting a nomination, they are due by 3:00 PM on March 20, 2008.

Nominations received after the deadline will be returned unopened. For details on the award categories and submission requirements, please see the attached file or visit our website at <http://www.abcdpittsburgh.org>.

Each year ABCD recognizes the talent and work of our membership during the Annual Awards Program. On May 22, 2008 awards will be presented to honor outstanding achievements in the categories listed below. If you have been involved with a project, either as a designer, contractor, or owner, and you feel that your project is worthy of recognition, we encourage you to submit an entry for consideration. If you know of an individual or group who has made exemplary contributions to our chapter or to the local bridge community, we encourage you to nominate them for consideration for the Achievement Award. Nominations are due at 3:00 PM on March 20, 2008. Nominations received after the deadline will be returned unopened.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Outstanding New Single Span Bridge
- Outstanding New Multiple Span Bridge
- Outstanding New Major Bridge – Main span length of at least 300 feet or a total length of at least 750 feet.
- Outstanding Rehabilitated Bridge – Main load carrying members must be original but can be modified or strengthened.
- Outstanding Other Structure – Tunnels and drainage structures
- ABCD Individual Achievement Award – Presented to an ABCD member who has been tireless in their efforts for the chapter or the design community.

Your project can be nominated if it meets the following criteria:

- The project must be located within 130 miles of the fountain at Point State Park. In case you're wondering if your project qualifies, the fountain is at N411849.406, E1370283.170.
- The project must be open to any sort of vehicular traffic on December 31, 2007. If the traffic is construction vehicles only, that is acceptable and the project qualifies.

For each nomination, the following must be submitted:

- A one or two page narrative of the project or person identifying reasons why they



should be considered for the award.

- Two or more color photographs (4" x 6" or larger) of the project with captions. The photographs should be taken during the later stages of construction or at completion.
- One or more 11 x 17 drawings showing unique details from the plans
- Listing of significant project features
- Six copies of the complete package are required for submission

Submissions are to be sent to:

John J. Tkacs, P.E.  
STV Incorporated  
Four Gateway Center, Suite 325  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222



<b>Bridge Name</b>	
Location (i.e. Route, etc.)	
Crossing	
Person Submitting	
Representative of	<input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Designer
<b>Owner Information</b>	
Contact Person	
Company / Institution Name	
Daytime Telephone Number	
Email Address	
Business Mailing Address	
<b>Designer Information</b>	
Contact Person	
Company / Institution Name	
Daytime Telephone Number	
Email Address	
Business Mailing Address	
<b>Contractor Information</b>	
Contact Person	
Company / Institution Name	
Daytime Telephone Number	
Email Address	
Business Mailing Address	



**Association for Bridge Construction and Design  
Pittsburgh Chapter**

**2008 Scholarship Instructions**

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Association for Bridge Construction and Design is awarding one \$1,000 scholarship to a full-time student in his/her third or fourth year of undergraduate study.

**Applicant requirements are as follows:**

1. At the time of application, applicants must be registered in an accredited B.Sc. Civil Engineering program in the Tri-State area. Schools in the Tri-State area include, but are not limited to, the University of Pittsburgh and branch campuses, Carnegie Mellon University, Penn State University and branch campuses, Point Park University, West Virginia University, and Youngstown State University. If the legal guardian of the applicant is an ABCD Pittsburgh member, the accredited B.Sc. Civil Engineering program need not be within the Tri-State area.
2. Applicants are to be full time students, in either their third or fourth year of undergraduate study.

**In order to be considered for the scholarship, applicants need to submit the following:**

1. An official school transcript which includes his/her academic record for the 2007 Fall Semester.
2. A bridge-related paper on a topic of their choice. Possible topics include: Structural significance of a Pittsburgh-area bridge; importance of bridges as infrastructure; or advances in materials of construction. The paper is to be formatted with 1.5 line spacing, 3 to 5 pages (8½" x 11"), 12-point font, full justification with 1.25-inch margins.
3. A completed submission form, included below.

Contact Roxanne Podlipsky at [podlipsky@abcdpittsburgh.org](mailto:podlipsky@abcdpittsburgh.org) if you have any questions.

**Terms and conditions are as follows:**

1. The Scholarship Awards Committee will focus more on creativity than academic achievement.
2. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
3. In circumstances where no worthy submissions are received, the scholarship will not be awarded.
4. The Awardee will receive the award as a check in his / her name, presented at the Annual ABCD Pittsburgh Awards Banquet. Awardees are encouraged to attend this function.
5. Transcripts will be treated as private and confidential and will not be shared outside of the ABCD Pittsburgh Awards Committee and ABCD Pittsburgh officers. Transcripts will be destroyed after the Awards Committee has made their decision.
6. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

**Applications, transcripts, and papers are due on April 18, 2008.**

Send applications to:

KCI Technologies, Inc.  
Penn Center East, Building 2  
3424 William Penn Highway, Suite 230  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
Attention: Roxanne Podlipsky



**Association for Bridge Construction and Design  
Pittsburgh Chapter**

**2008 Scholarship Submission Form**

**Applicant's Personal Information**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Educational Information**

Educational Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Expected Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_



## ABCD News Bulletin

### **SAI Announces New Executive Vice President and Award Recipient**

January 3, 2008, Pittsburgh, PA -- SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc. is pleased to announce the promotion of James J. Lombardi, P.E. from Vice President – Construction Services to Executive Vice President in their Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, office.

For over 26 years, Mr. Lombardi, who is a registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania and Florida, has been an integral part of SAI and responsible for the growth and overall success of their Construction Services Group. He began his career as a design engineer in 1972 with the New Jersey Department of Transportation. In 1973 he joined the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Engineering District 11-0 as a civil engineer in their Construction Unit; he has also worked for the Allegheny County Department of Engineering and Construction.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Engineering, Mr. Lombardi was recently selected to receive the Civil Engineering Department's *Distinguished Alumni Award*. For over 40 years, the University of Pittsburgh has honored the outstanding achievements of its graduates with this award; Mr. Lombardi is one of the few distinguished professionals' in the civil engineering industry to have received this prestigious honor.

### **SAI Employee Named Young Civil Engineer of the Year for 2008**

February 13, 2008, Pittsburgh, PA -- SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc. is pleased to announce that Amanda Szpara, one of our structure engineering staff members, has been named Young Civil Engineer of the Year for 2008 by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Pittsburgh Section. The award was officially presented during the ASCE 2008 Annual Awards Banquet on February 16, 2008, at the Engineer's Society of Western Pennsylvania located in Downtown Pittsburgh.

A graduate of the Penn State University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, Ms. Szpara is a registered Engineer in Training in the state of Pennsylvania and has been with SAI for over five years.

Established in 1953, and now with a staff of over 150 professionals, SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc. (SAI) is a Pittsburgh-based civil and structural consulting/engineering firm that specializes in the design, inspection, and construction management of transportation, industrial, institutional, and commercial projects with offices located in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Morgantown, West Virginia; and Orlando, Florida.



## ABCD Membership

Roxanne Podlipsky, P.E.  
Membership Chair

The Pittsburgh Chapter of ABCD has approximately 225 members at this time. So far, we have received dues payments from 2/3 of the membership. Thank you very much to those who have paid. For those who have not yet remitted payment, we would appreciate hearing from you soon.

Any member that we have not heard from this season can expect to hear from us. We are trying to clean up the information on our membership roster, and there are many people that we have not heard from in a couple of years. Please inform us of any changes to your contact info, either with your dues payment or through email to [podlipsky@abcdpittsburgh.org](mailto:podlipsky@abcdpittsburgh.org).

This year, less than 25% of the membership voted on the nominees for the board of directors. We would love to see a higher participation level next year. Remember, the board of directors votes on chapter business, membership applications, and the president-elect. The board of directors is key in charting the course of the chapter. For more information about the board, please contact Sjaan Korvink at [korvink@abcdpittsburgh.org](mailto:korvink@abcdpittsburgh.org) or me at [podlipsky@abcdpittsburgh.org](mailto:podlipsky@abcdpittsburgh.org).

### Membership Notes

- Wallace Gerald (Jerry) Johnson has retired from JMT and relocated to Florida. He would love to hear from his friends at ABCD. You can contact him at [wjohnson90@cfl.rr.com](mailto:wjohnson90@cfl.rr.com) or 672 Bamboo Palm Way, Oviedo, FL 32765.

- If you know the current contact information for William Detwiler, please let us know.

### Errata

In the November ABCD Newsletter, credit must be given to those who wrote the articles entitled "ABCD Seminar", and "ABCD News Bulletin". Thank you Pimolmas Tan, P.E. for writing such an informative and interesting article about the most recent seminar. Thanks also goes to Raghu Krishnaswamy for keeping us abreast on the most recent developments in our professional world in our news bulletin.



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**DMJM HARRIS** | AECOM

**DMJM Harris, an AECOM Company - Transportation Engineering Firm has an immediate openings in our Pittsburgh PA Office.**

**Senior Railway Signaling Circuit Designers**

10 Years Experience

BSEE

**Railway Signaling Circuit Designers**

2 Years of Experience

BSEE

The above candidates must have experience in signal system circuit design for vital and non-vital relay circuits & code systems

**Railway Signaling Trainee Circuit Designers**

BSEE

**DMJM Harris offers an excellent salary & benefits package. EEO**

**Please forward resume to [pam.hoebener@dmjmharris.com](mailto:pam.hoebener@dmjmharris.com)**

## Officers

President Sjaan Korvink (412) 395-8888  
President-Elect  
Secretary Todd Carroll (412) 788-0472  
Treasurer Monica Falgoust (412) 497-6012

## Committee Chairpersons

Community Affairs Nikki Bedillion (412) 375-5100  
Membership Roxanne Podlipsky (412) 824-7046  
Program John Tkacs (412) 880-5348  
Public Relations Laura Volle (412) 269-6438  
Technical Raghu Krishnaswamy (412) 395-8888  
Web Site Jeremy Shaffer (412) 681-1521  
Awards John Tkacs (412) 880-5348  
Scholarship Roxanne Podlipsky (412) 824-7046

## Directors

2005 - 2008	2006 - 2009	2007 - 2010
Todd Carroll	Roxanne Podlipsky	Stephen Shanley
Keith Chong	John Tkacs	Raghu Krishnaswamy
Jeremy Shaffer	Laura Volle	

## Legal Counsel

Patrick Narcisi – Attorney at Law  
(412) 761-0100

## Sustaining Members

- \* Ammann & Whitney
- \* Brayman Construction Corporation
- \* CONTECH Bridge Solutions, Inc.
- \* D'Appolonia
- \* DMJM+HARRIS, Inc.
- \* GAI Consultants, Inc.
- \* Gannett Fleming, Inc.
- \* HDR Engineering, Inc
- \* InspectTech
- \* JMT
- \* KCI
- \* Lichtenstein Consulting Engineers, Inc.
- \* L. Robert Kimball & Associates
- \* Mackin Engineering Company
- \* Maguire Group, Inc.
- \* Management Engineering Corporation
- \* Mekis Construction Corporation
- \* Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.
- \* MS Consultants, Inc.
- \* Nicholson
- \* PB Americas
- \* PBS&J
- \* Royston Laboratories
- \* SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc.
- \* Sofis Company, Inc.
- \* STV Incorporated
- \* URS Corporation
- \* W.E.C. Engineers, Inc.
- \* Wilbur Smith & Associates



**Association for Bridge Construction & Design**

Pittsburgh Chapter • [www.abcdpittsburgh.org](http://www.abcdpittsburgh.org)

P. O. Box 23264  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222