



Eastern New York Chapter  
of the  
**ASSOCIATION FOR  
BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN**

Newsletter

January 2002

Volume 8

No. 2

***Presidents Message...***

I would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

The Board of Directors has been busy investigating and taking part in activities with other organizations that will expose ABCD to a larger sector of our peer community. We have co-sponsored two dinner meetings with other professional organizations with program topics that were about bridges. We also sponsored a first and second prize for the local 'Future City' Competition.

At our last BOD meeting, we decided that our needs for educating the public would best be served by forming a new committee for public relations. This committee would also expand and maintain our website. Any upcoming events that our organization would participate in would be led by members of this committee. Anyone interested in serving on this committee please call me at my office (518) 294-9964.

The next couple of months will be very busy with ABCD activities and meetings. The upcoming meetings the program committee has developed should be of interest to many of us. The program that has been established for Engineers Week is well diversified in scope, and should be a highlight for the Engineer Week festivities. The education committee is currently finalizing the seminar for this year with High Steel Structures, Inc. We will be co-sponsoring a booth with the other ABCD Chapters at the Transportation Engineers meetings.

On the cover of a recent Low Bidder magazine, there was a quote from Theodore Roosevelt. It read "Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has the moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere." In this light, I would like to remind everyone that, when they renew, to volunteer for our various committees and to encourage your colleagues to also join our organization.

*Dominick J. Izzo, President*

## Strange Objects on local Freeways

You may have noticed over the last couple of months many strange objects made of concrete traveling beside you on the freeways. Last year was very busy for The Fort Miller Company, Inc. Peter Smith of Fort Miller will discuss recent developments at Fort Miller including the delivery of large projects next Thursday, January 24th, 2002 at the Holiday Inn (Turf Inn). The lunchtime meeting starts at noon with check in, a hot and cold buffet lunch and program. Call Mark Olstad at 453-3957 for more information and to make a reservation.

Peter will focus on three major projects as shown in the photos below. The 'super-slab' has great potential for fast bridge approach replacement.



**Figure 1 - 'Super-slab' precast pavement slabs at Tappan Zee Bridge Toll Plaza consisting of an interconnecting series of precast slabs that can be installed and placed into service immediately.**



**Figure 2 - Installation of 'Inverset Bridge System', Long Island Expressway /58th Street in Queens.**



**Figure 3 - Williamsburg Bridge Approach near completion using 3 meter long precast segmental units**

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## Membership Committee Update:

It is time for your 2002 membership renewal and the good news is that dues will remain at \$25.00 per year. We encourage you to return them as soon as possible. This year we have added an incentive for those who can help expand our membership with new members. Please see the details in your renewal packet.

*By Todd Brewer*

## Eighth Statewide Conference on Local Bridges

The Eight Statewide Conference on Local Bridges was held in Syracuse on October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. This conference brings representatives from local governments and the State DOT together to discuss ways to improve bridges on the local highway system. Consultants, contractors and material suppliers also play an important part in these discussions. This ABCD chapter along with its sister NY chapters in Buffalo and New York City have been co-presenters of this series of conferences since its inception. ABCD has held a seat on the conference Steering Committee each year.

Attendance at this year's conference was nearly 350, up from last year's 315. Preliminary figures show that there more than 100 local government

## Statewide Conference, continued:

and around 90 DOT representatives in attendance. NYSDOT Commissioner Joseph Boardman was on hand to provide remarks at Wednesday night's dinner. He was joined by Robert Arnold, FHWA's New York Division Administrator. A cursory review of conference evaluation forms indicated that the program was well received and that the conference continues to be of value. Attendees voiced, overwhelmingly, the desire to convene again next year. Planning the Steering Committee has begun.

*By Frank Naret*

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## TRB Conference

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) held its 81st Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. the week of January 14th. The TRB is a unit of the National Research Council, a private, nonprofit institution that is the principal operation agency of the National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Engineering. If your interest lies in bridges this is one conference you should try to attend. The conference is massive covering all transportation issues with well over 10,000 attendees. The conference hosts workshops, committee meetings and presentations. What is so unique about the conference is that this is the place where ideas take shape that directly affect the design and construction of bridges. Committees seek ideas that are developed into problem statements and forwarded for funded research. A major deliverable for any research is proposed changes to specifications and other directives affecting bridge design and construction. I noticed that Albany was well represented with engineers from the NYSDOT, NYS Thruway and many consultants. Jim O'Connell, NYSDOT gave a presentation on New York Prefabricated Bridge Systems. Ayaz Malik, NYSDOT, chaired sessions covering steel bridges and seismic design. Albany engineers were involved with many committees such as the Structures Maintenance Committee A3C06. For more information go to [www.trb.org](http://www.trb.org).

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### FEBRUARY

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. Capital District Chapter NYSSPE  
Mathcounts & GE R & D Center  
  
Don Aulenbach 371-7572
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Fri. Capital District Chapter NYSSPE  
Chapter Meeting TBA  
  
Tom McGrath 452-4358
- 26<sup>th</sup> Tue. Albany Society of Engineers  
5:30p.m. Programs on EZ-Pass at  
Quality Inn, Glenmont  
  
Travis Carsen 869-6402
- 28<sup>th</sup> Thu. 2002 Engineers Week  
Seminars & Luncheon at Albany  
Marriott  
  
Jennifer Miller 283-7490

Don't forget AASHTO Bridge this May in Atlantic City and the International Bridge Conference in Pittsburgh, June 2002.

### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

We are continually seeking interesting ENGINEERING STORIES for future issues. Your experience in the bridge industry no doubt has provided some projects of interest to all ABCD members. Please email me at: [ethorkildsen@collinsengr.com](mailto:ethorkildsen@collinsengr.com).

Special thanks to Scott Harrigan and Maggie for help in newsletter preparation.

# ABCD

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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c/o M. Olstad, @CHA  
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