

NEWS BULLETIN

AN ASSOCIATION OF INDIVIDUALS

**HOLING**



OF THE MOLES

ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

**THROUGH**

JULY, 1996

## THE GAVEL IS PASSED



Photo Above: Retiring President, GERARD A. NEUMANN, JR., (LEFT) turns over the gavel to The Moles 1996/1997 President, CHARLES F. VACHRIS, at the Annual Business Meeting and Dinner held at The New York Hilton Hotel on May 1, 1996.

## WHAT THE MOLES IS ABOUT



Photo Above: JOE PERAINO, (left) a member of The Moles since 1966, renews acquaintances with CHARLIE DEFENDORF (center) a Moles member since 1964, with GERRY GERLETZ, right, a newer member, looking on. Isn't this what The Moles is all about? Coming together to see old friends and to make new acquaintances.

## CLAMBAKE PLANNED FOR AUGUST 6TH

Everyone should find something of interest at this year's Clambake. Golf will be available on the morning of the Clambake at Leeward Golf Club in Eastchester. For those arriving on Monday, accommodations are available at the Stouffer Westchester Hotel. There will a dinner on Monday evening for anyone who would like to attend.

Lunch and dinner will be served at Travers Island and there will be a full round of activities including: tennis, horseshoes, softball, volleyball, swimming, boating (see below) and more. We will be using round tables as we did last year, which provided much more comfortable seating. This is a great opportunity to see old friends and to make new ones.

Below: The "George Burrows" will be back again this year to take you on a cruise on the Long Island Sound. Come and have some fun.



# ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The fifty-eighth Annual Business Meeting of The Moles was held at The New York Hilton Hotel on Wednesday evening, May 1, 1996.

CHARLES F. VACHRIS received the gavel as the fifty seventh president from the retiring President, GERARD A. NEUMANN, JR.

One might ask why fifty-eight meetings and only fifty-seven presidents. During the years of World War II, two presidents served terms of one and a half years.

After an enjoyable cocktail hour the members present went into the Trianon Ballroom for dinner. One of the highlights of the evening was the welcoming and introduction of the new members.

Reports were given by all of the Committee Chairmen. This meeting completed the terms of Secretary Mel Febesh, Chairman of the Award Committee, Leon Heron and Chairman of the Membership Committee, Joe Martosella. Trustees Lou D'Amico, Ed Plotkin and Past President George Searle also completed their terms.

The officers and new Trustees were then introduced. Ed Cruz is the new Secretary and the new Trustees are Al Brand, George Neumann, Bill Murphy and Don Unbekant. Retiring President, Jerry Neumann, will now serve a three year term as Trustee.

After turning over the gavel to new President Charlie Vachris, Jerry Neumann had an opportunity to reflect on his tenure as President. He thanked The Moles staff for their help and recounted as to what a great honor it was for him to serve as President of this great organization.

There was a fine turn out of members at the meeting and they continued to socialize after the adjournment of the meeting.

## BID RESULTS - MWRA PROJECT

Readers may remember that in the April issue of Holing Through you were alerted to the upcoming bids on a \$228 million water supply tunnel in Framingham and Natick, Massachusetts, right in the backyard of Perini Corporation's main office. The question was, would Perini be low bidder? Base bids received on April 18th were as follows:

Shea/Traylor/Healy	\$251,867,770
Perini/Frontier-Kemper/Wayss-Freytag	\$269,464,960
Modern-Continental/Obyashi	\$277,491,597
Kiewit/Atkinson/Kenny	\$337,774,550

More times than not, the company that might appear to have an advantage (although very minor in this case), does not get the job.

## PRAISEWORTHY GOALS OF DART

Dart is an acronym which stands for Dispute Avoidance and Resolution Task Force of the Construction Industry. It has prepared a Declaration of Principles for Prevention and Resolution of Disputes in the Construction Industry. The document was signed on April 15, 1996, by thirty-six leaders of national industry associations and users or providers of construction services. More than four years in development, the declaration calls on everyone participating in a construction project to use collaborative procedures to resolve disagreements that arise on a job. Copies of the Declaration and more information about DART can be obtained from Allan D. Silberman, Executive Director in Washington, D.C. Phone: 202-296-5775

### THE MOLES

Holing Through is published by The Moles three times a year: April, July and November. The Moles is an organization of people engaged in Heavy Construction. Its purpose is to promote better acquaintance among individuals engaged in heavy construction to the end:

- That past and future friendships and a spirit of fraternization among the members be fostered.
- That meetings and other gatherings be held to exchange construction information and promote good fellowship among the members.
- That advancement of the Construction art be achieved, and outstanding performance be recognized through awards and otherwise.
- That the youth of our country be encouraged to participate in heavy construction by a multi purpose program of education in cooperation with engineering colleges and other associations.
- That, in the public interest, standards of construction shall be raised both as to engineering and business ethics.
- The Moles' office is located at 577 Chestnut Ridge Road, Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey 07675. Telephone: 201-930-1923 Fax: 201-930-8501 Executive Director: Gerard J. Carty, P.E.

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The first recipients of the McAlinden Scholarships were selected at the May 1st Business Meeting. A total of 46 students (children and grandchildren) of Moles' member who had or were completing at least two years of undergraduate studies were ruled eligible for the drawing. It had been determined by the Finance and Education Committees that three \$1,000 scholarships would be made available this year. The three lottery winners are: C. Lance Beckner, a student at Oklahoma State University and son of Chuck Beckner; Matthew Stone, a student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and grandson of Thomas Randolph, Jr.; and Michael Rupich, a student at Marist College and a son of John Rupich. Congratulations to our three winners and thanks to our deceased member Joseph A. McAlinden of thinking so much of The Moles and leaving this bequest from which the scholarships are funded.

## GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

At its April 2nd meeting, the Executive Committee voted to kickoff the General Scholarship Fund by donating \$50,000 from the Permanent Fund to the Scholarship Fund.

A Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee has been appointed. George Tamaro is Chairman. The other members of the committee are Bob Brungraber, Norman Nadel, George Searle and Tom Treacy. The committee has been meeting to determine how best to raise funds. Steve Greenfield has accepted the position of Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee. Fund raising is expected to get under way in the fall.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS.....

Quite some competition developed as to who was the youngest person to become a member of The Moles. First NICK DI MENNA claimed the honor, becoming a member at age 34. Then FRED DRISCOLL threw his hat into the ring informing us that he was 33 at the time he was accepted into The Moles. In April we heard from FRANK DI MENNA, JR. that he was 31 and from GENE FULLAM that he was 30 years and five months when he became a Mole. Unless we hear differently, it looks like GENE FULLAM claims the title.....ART BLATTNER has joined Felix Equities as Vice President, General Construction.....JIM GOULD of Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers is coordinating and is one of 15 expert-practitioners who will be participating in a special offering at Polytechnic University (Brooklyn Poly) next fall entitled "Urban Geotechnology". All but 2 of the 15 speakers are members of The Moles. Jim and his Moles' colleagues are to be congratulated for this labor of love. Contact Jim Gould if you wish more information on this outstanding offering.....BOB JENNY is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of his company, Jenny Engineering Corp., located in Springfield, New Jersey.....TOM KING of Schiavone Construction Company was the recipient of the Annual Bonhag Award presented by the New Jersey Professional Engineers in Construction at a dinner in April. Other Moles' members so honored in the past include the late CHARLIE STILLMAN, PETE SHANNON, JOE D'ANNUNZIO, the late PHIL MILLER, BOB LENZ, ED CRUZ, RICHARD CALLAGHAN, CHARLIE WORISCHECK AND DAN REDMOND..... JOHN KOLAYA was recently promoted to Vice President of Construction for Yonkers Contracting Company. This year marked the 50th anniversary of the founding of YONKERS CONTRACTING COMPANY and was duly observed with a reception on April 26th.....JIM LAMMIE of Parsons Brinkerhoff was one of ten members selected this year for Honorary Membership, the most prestigious grade of membership, in the American Society of Civil Engineers.....At the Fourth Annual Awards Luncheon on June 6 at the Sheraton Hotel in New York City, DAN LAZAR was honored as the Volunteer of the Year by the Regional Alliance for Small Contractors. This organization provides a broad range of services to small, minority and women-owned construction businesses throughout the Metropolitan New York Region. Dan enlisted JOHN CHOW, retired from Perini Corporation, as a fellow volunteer to work on this most praiseworthy endeavor. Dan, a Past President and Award Recipient, has been a member of The Moles since 1944.....AL MATHEWS presented the principal address and received an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from Michigan Technological University (MTU) at its graduation ceremonies in May. Al graduated from MTU in 1936 with a degree in mining engineering and had been honored by the University with its Silver Medal Award in 1986.....ED PLOTKIN has been elected President of the Westchester Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. Ed is Manager, Field Operations for Sverdrup Civil, Inc.....WALTER SCOTT and his accomplishments at Kiewit constituted the feature article in the the June 17th issue of Barrons. Walter appeared on the cover page with the caption, "The Quiet Giant - How Chairman Walter Scott made Peter Kiewit Sons one of the nation's largest construction firms, a winner in communications and energy".....KEN STINSON, Chairman and CEO of Kiewit's Construction Group, was honored by the College of Engineering at his alma mater, the University of Notre Dame, with its 1996 Honors Award.....GEORGE TAMARO was honored at a dinner at Manhattan College in April in recognition of his induction into the National Academy of Engineering.....GLEN E. VOGEL retired from the NYCDEP after 32 years service to New York City. He has joined Malcolm Pirnie as Vice President in their Northeast Region.

## NEW MEMBERS



**Left to Right: Cesare De Rose, Irvin J. Ragsdale, Dominick Scotto, Harry Stricker, John Bidosky III, William L. Womack, Christopher Larsen, Thomas W. Sutton, Marc A. Beljan, Joseph Scalamandre, Paul J. Scagnelli, Richard E. Beumer, Mark Fitzgerald, Raymond J. Maffei**

JACK J. AGRESTI is President and Chief Executive Officer of Guy F. Atkinson Company. He joined Atkinson shortly after earning his Degree from San Jose State University in 1959 and has been with the company since that time.

MARC A. BELJAN earned a Civil Engineering Degree from Lafayette College and upon graduation joined Belbold Contracting Corporation where he serves as Vice President and Assistant Treasurer.

RICHARD E. BUEMER is President and Chief Executive Officer of Sverdrup Corporation. He joined Sverdrup in 1959 upon graduation from Valparaiso University with a Degree in Electrical Engineering.

JOHN BIDOSKY graduated from RPI with a Civil Engineering Degree in 1975. After employment by other companies, including Goodkind & O'Dea, he joined American Bridge Company in 1990 where he serves as Project Manager on major bridge rehabilitation projects.

GERARD P. BRADY received his Civil Engineering Degree from Manhattan College in 1977 and a Law Degree from Pace University in 1985. He has his own law practice.

RICHARD M. BRISCH is Manager of the Western Region for ICI Explosives. He received a Degree from St. Joseph's College in 1971.

THOMAS P. CONDRIN earned a Degree from the University of Maryland in 1979 and is currently Sales manager for L.B. Foster Company.

CESARE DeROSE is Chief Engineer of Thalle Construction Company, Briarcliff Manor, New York. He holds a Civil Engineering Degree and a Masters in Business Administration from Manhattan College.

MARK FITZGERALD is President and Chief Executive Officer of Willis Corroon Construction Services Corp., New Hyde Park, New York. He graduated from the University of Connecticut.

STEPHEN R. FORRESTEL is President of Cold Spring Construction Company, Akron, New York. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1971 with a Civil Engineering Degree and is a second generation Moles' member.

JOHN R. LAMBERSON is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, of Lamberson Koster & Co., Insurance and Surety Bond Brokerage, San Francisco, California. John holds a Degree from the University of California.

CHRISTOPHER R. LARSEN is Vice President of The Halmar Corporation, Mount Vernon, New York. He earned an Associates Degree from Orange County Community College and was awarded a Bachelors Degree from Pace University in May 1996.

RAYMOND J. MAFFEI is Vice President and Area Manager for Perini Corporation, Hawthorne, New York. He holds an Engineering Degree from the University of Bridgeport.

HENRY J. MARCELLE is a graduate of the State University of New York at Cortland and is Vice President of The Fort Miller Company, Saratoga Springs, New York, maker of precast concrete bridges and retaining walls.

JEFFREY E. MAZUR is a Civil Engineering graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and is the principal owner of Cal-Tran Associates, Inc., Caldwell, New Jersey.

**WELCOME  
NEW  
MEMBERS!**

BRADFORD D. MILLS is Vice President of Sales and Marketing for High Steel Structures, structural steel fabricators and erectors, Lancaster, PA. Brad is a graduate of Charlotte College, University of North Carolina.

PATRICK D. MULLEN is a Civil Engineering graduate of the University of Dayton and is Vice President of Estimating for Yonkers Contracting Company, Yonkers, New York.

THOMAS J. O'NEILL received a Bachelors Degree from Dartmouth College in both Arts and Engineering. He was recently elected President and CEO of Parsons Brinkerhoff, Inc.

JOHN R. PECKHAM is President of Peckham Industries, Inc., White Plains, New York. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Economics from Union College.

JOHN P. PICONE is President of John P. Picone, Inc., Long Island, New York. He earned a Civil Engineering Degree from Cornell University.

DAVID E. PINYOT is a Civil Engineering Graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and is Chief Estimator of Nicholson Construction Company.

ROBERT A. POND attended the Colorado School of Mines and is Executive Vice President and Secretary of Frontier-Kemper Constructors, Inc.

IRVIN J. RAGSDALE earned a Civil Engineering Degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and is Foundation Manager for Clark Construction Group, Inc.

STEPHEN C. REDMOND holds a Civil Engineering Degree from RPI and a Masters Degree in Finance



**Left to Right: Henry J. Marcelle, Gerard P. Brady, John R. Peckham, Stephen C. Redmond, Jeffrey E. Mazur, Bradford D. Mills, Robert A. Pond, David R. Wanhatalo, Robert J. Ronayne, Patrick D. Mullen, Thomas P. Condrin, David E. Pinyot, Richard D. Brisch, Robert A. Reseigh, John R. Lamberson.**

from Rochester Institute of Technology. He is an Assistant Project Manager with Frontier-Kemper Constructors, Inc.

ROBERT A. RESEIGH is Vice President and Manager of Underground Construction and Mining for Atkinson Construction. He earned a Masters Degree in Mining Engineering from Colorado School of Mines.

ROBERT J. RONAYNE is Chief Engineer Bridge and Roadway Design and Construction, NYCDOT. He is a Civil Engineering graduate of Newark College of Engineering.

PAUL J. SCAGNELLI holds both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Civil Engineering from Newark College of Engineering and is Executive Vice President and Chief Engineer of Schiavone Construction Company.

JOSEPH SCALAMANDRE is Executive Vice President of Peter

Scalamandre & Sons, Inc., Freeport, Long Island, New York. He is in charge of all projects from inception to completion.

DOMINICK J. SCOTTO is President of Armitage & Co., Inc., Insurance and Bonding Agents, Elmont, New York. He attended Alaska Methodist University and the College of Insurance.

HARRY STRICKER is Senior Estimator with Perini Corporation, Hawthorne, New York. He holds a Civil Engineering Degree from the University of Connecticut and a Masters in Civil Engineering from Polytechnic Institute.

THOMAS W. SUTTON, JR., is Vice President of Karl Koch Erecting Company, Inc., Carteret, New Jersey. He graduated from Northern Arizona University with an Engineering Degree.

Continued on Page 6

## NEW MEMBERS

(Continued from Page 5)

DAVID R. WANHATALO is Vice President of Operations for Frontier-Kemper Constructors, Inc. He has a Civil Engineering Degree from Indiana Institute of Technology.

RONALD P. WELLS earned a Civil Engineering degree from Clarkson College and is Vice President and Division Manager for Dillingham Corporation.

HENRY R. WHITTY attended Tulane University and is President of The Whitty Company, Inc., Slidell, Louisiana, a Highway, Heavy and Pile Driving Contractor.

WILLIAM L. WOMACK is Senior Vice President and Assistant Division Manager for Perini's U.S. Heavy Division. He holds a Civil Engineering Degree from Georgia Institute of Technology.

## THE MOLES CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ANNUAL CLAMBAKE  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH  
TRAVERS ISLAND

ANNUAL FALL  
MEMBERS DINNER  
WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 6, 1996  
NEW YORK HILTON  
HOTEL

AWARD DINNER  
WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 29, 1997  
NEW YORK HILTON  
HOTEL

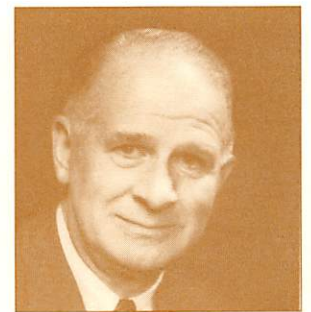
## A MOMENT OF SILENCE



BOB COMPTON

G. ROBERT (BOB) COMPTON, JR., died on February 3, 1996 at the age of 72. He received an Engineering Degree from Princeton University in 1945 and spent his career with the McKiernan-Terry Corp. (later known as MKT Corporation), where he served as President from 1968 to 1975. He was one of the founders of the Deep Foundation Institute, served as its President in 1980 and subsequently as Executive Director of the organization.

Honorary Member, WILLIAM BLACKIE, died on May 9, 1996 at the age of 90. Mr. Blackie was the President of Caterpillar Tractor Company when he was invited to be the principal speaker at the 1967 Annual Award Dinner. He was born and educated in Scotland and came to the United States in 1930. He joined Caterpillar in 1939 quickly rose through various executive positions to President. He was the architect of Caterpillar's move into foreign markets and was one of the leading U. S. business executives of that period.



WILLIAM BLACKIE

The Moles office only recently became aware of the death of FREDERICK R. HAZARD on February 27, 1996 at the age of 73. He graduated from Brown University in 1948 with a Degree in Civil Engineering. His early career was spent with Merritt Chapman and Scott and Dunbar & Sullivan Dredging Company. The greater part of his work life was with Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, from which he retired as a senior executive. He then returned to Rhode Island, where his family ranked among the oldest in the state.

NELLO L. TEER, JR., died on April 2, 1996. He headed Nello Teer Company for over thirty years until his retirement in 1984. His company performed major construction work both in this country and overseas. In 1973 he was President of AGC and the following year he received the ENR Award for men who made their mark in heavy construction. He was a 1936 graduate of North Carolina State and was 82 at the time of his death.

## THE MOLES AND TRAVERS ISLAND

A search of the records finds that the first Moles' Clambake at Travers Island took place on August 20, 1947. Today's Clambake pretty much follows the format of that first Clambake: golf at Split Rock Country Club, a buffet lunch, softball (The Moles triumphed over the Department of Public Works team by a score of 11 to 7), swimming in the olympic size pool, a lobster dinner and a show in a special tent set up for the occasion. The after dinner show was discontinued about ten years ago. The newer generation likes to get an earlier start home. The August 15, 1956 Clambake was held on the day that the National Water Polo Championship Tournament started at Travers Island. For a while in the 70's and 80's the Clambake was held, first at Tammy Brook Country Club in New Jersey and then at the Colonie Hill on Long Island. The Program Committee determined in 1984 that Travers Island was the best place for our annual Summer event.

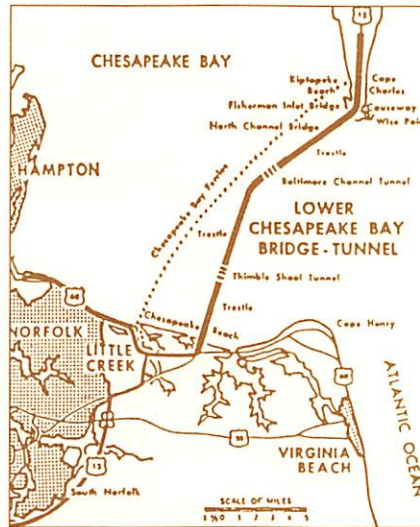
# THE CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE AND TUNNEL CROSSING

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel Crossing, completed in 1964, still remains one of the construction marvels of our times. The project which crosses Chesapeake Bay, connecting Little Creek, Virginia with the most southern point of the Delmarva Peninsula is 17.5 miles long. It consists of 12.5 miles of low level trestle; four man made islands; two tunnels, each about a mile long; the high-level North Channel Bridge, 3,800 ft. long; two miles of earth fill causeway; and the medium high-level Fisherman Inlet Bridge, 456 ft. long.

Many Moles' members and their companies were involved in the original design and construction. Sverdrup & Parcell were the designers. Moran, Proctor, Mueser & Rutledge were the geotechnical engineers.

A Joint Venture consisting of Tidewater Construction Corporation, Norfolk, Virginia, (Sponsor); Merritt-Chapman & Scott Corporation and Raymond International Inc., both of New York City and Peter Kiewit Son's Company, Omaha, Nebraska, was formed to negotiate a contract for the main crossing. Under the terms of the Joint Venture agreement, Merritt-Chapman & Scott was to perform the tunnel and island work and the other members of the Joint Venture were to perform all other work. For the benefit of our younger members, Merritt-Chapman and Scott (known as MCS) and Raymond International were two of the premier and major construction companies of the times. Both companies subsequently went out of business due to financial difficulties. American Dewatering (a subsidiary of Moretrench Corporation) was the subcontractor for the sand drain work on the North Island.

American Bridge Division of U.S.



Steel Corporation had a prime contract to furnish and erect the steel on the North Channel and Fisherman Inlet Bridges. At the time, this company and Bethlehem Steel Company were the two major steel companies which furnished and erected steel on all the major bridges constructed in this country, including among others the Golden Gate Bridge, Oakland Bay Bridge, George Washington Bridge and Verrazano Bridge.

Total cost of the project, including construction, right of way, engineering, administrative, legal and related expenses were estimated to be \$139.2 million. The construction contract for the main crossing was in the amount of \$118,568,800.

Work commenced in September 1960 with a completion date of April 15, 1964. The project was successfully completed both within schedule (three days late) and cost. For his role in serving as Chairman of the Joint Venture's Management Committee, **SHERWOOD E. LILES, JR.**, (known as Sam) was honored with the 1964 Moles Non-Member Award. Sam's brother, **J.R. (Dick) LILES**, served as

Project Manager and **JOHN W. FOWLER**, at the tender age of 33, served as Project Engineer. Other Moles members involved in the project include **JOE PERAINO** (whose photo is on the front page of this issue) and who worked for Merritt-Chapman & Scott at that time; **SHERWOOD LILES III**, who worked for Tidewater; **BOB LENZ, TOM KNOWLES AND PAT POWERS**, all of whom worked for American Dewatering.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION

Because there were so many automobile accidents on the trestle and bridge portion of the crossing, the Owner, The Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel District, decided to construct a parallel crossing (except for the tunnels). Design again was by the Sverdrup Corporation. Bids for this work were received on April 18, 1995 and a Joint Venture led by PCL Civil Constructors and including The Hardaway Company and Interbeton was low bidder at a price of \$197,185,777.50. Second bidder at \$200,908,000.00 was a Joint Venture of Tidewater Construction Corporation and Kiewit Construction Company. Third bidder was TJA Constructors at \$231,867,114. This Joint Venture included Traylor Brothers, J.A. Jones Construction Company and Guy F. Atkinson Company. The fourth bidder at \$249,950,385 was a Joint Venture including Perini Corporation, Brown & Root, Dutra Construction Company and O&G Industries.

Work is now underway with completion of Phase I expected in September 1998 and Phase II in June 1999.

The editor wishes to thank John Fowler for his assistance in developing this article.

# 1996 MOLES' STUDENTS DAY



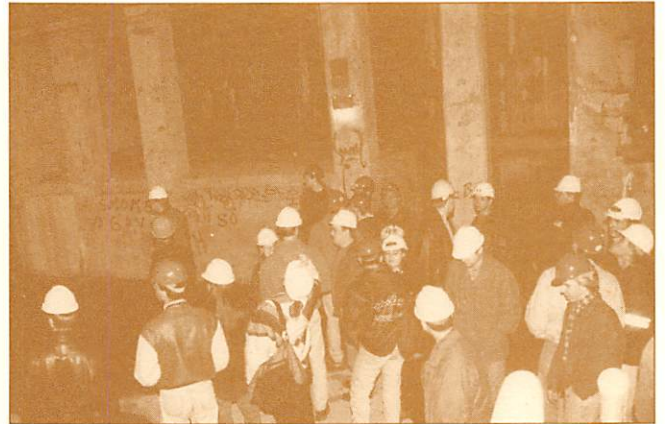
Arriving students receiving hard hats.



Viewing model in Transit Authority Office.



Tied back slurry wall with rock excavation underway.



Inspecting completed 63rd street tunnel.



Committee Chairman Tony Mazzo escorting group.



Students enjoying lunch after completing tour.

**ANOTHER GREAT STUDENT'S DAY** - Approximately 250 students and faculty members turned out for Student's Day on Friday, April 12, 1996. The site was the 63rd Street subway extension in Queens Plaza, Long Island. One of the purposes of The Moles is .....That the youth of our country be encouraged to participate in heavy construction..... Student's Day is the prime way The Moles accomplishes this objective. All Moles' members can be proud of the work done by the Education Committee and the other Moles' members who assist with this wonderful program.