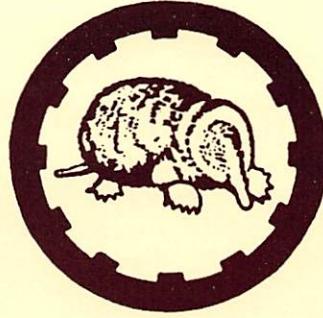


## NEWS BULLETIN

AN ASSOCIATION OF INDIVIDUALS

# HOLING



## OF THE MOLES

ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

# THROUGH

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APRIL, 2002

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### **PETE SCHNEIDKRAUT ELECTED PRESIDENT of THE MOLES**

PETER S. SCHNEIDKRAUT, recently retired President of Kiewit Constructors, Inc., has been elected to serve as President of The Moles for the year 2002/2003 . He will receive the gavel from retiring President, George J. Tamaro, at the Annual Business Meeting and Dinner to be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2002 at The New York Hilton Hotel.

Other officers elected are: First Vice President, EDWARD CRUZ, E.E. Cruz ; Second Vice President, JOHN L. KOLAYA, Yonkers Contracting Company, Inc.; Treasurer, ALFRED H. BRAND, Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers; Secretary, JOHN F. MC NAMARA III, Modern Continental Construction Company, Inc; Sergeant-at-Arms, JOSEPH T. MILLER, Consultant.



Peter S. Schneidkraut

Trustees elected for three (3) year terms are: THOMAS IOVINO, Judlau Contracting, Inc.; FRANCIS J. LOMBARDI, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey; JOSEPH M. MC CANN, Moretrench American Corporation; and JOHN A. RUPICH, Consultant. Elected as a Trustee for a one year term is DOMINICK M. SERVEDIO, STV Incorporated.

PETER S. SCHNEIDKRAUT earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University in 1975. He worked his last summer prior to graduation as an Assistant Superintendent for Thomas Crimmins Contracting Company on the Hunter College Foundation Project and upon graduation went to work for Crimmins as a design engineer in their main office. Shortly thereafter, he was assigned to the 63rd Street Subway and Lexington Avenue Station job, a project being performed for the NYC Transit Authority by a Joint Venture led by Schiavone Construction Company.

In 1976, Pete embarked on his career with Grow Tunneling Corporation as a Tunnel Superintendent and then as project Engineer on the Red Hook Intercepting Sewer Tunnel in Brooklyn, N.Y., a \$65 million compressed air tunnel. Upon completion of that project, he went to Grow's main office and took on estimating responsibilities. In 1985, he was named a Vice President of Grow.

(continued on Page 2)

## **Pete Schneidkraut**

*(continued from page 1)*

From 1985 to 1990 Pete served as Project Manager on several major tunnel projects in New York and New Jersey. Among the projects were the Van Courtland Park Valve Chamber (City Water Tunnel 3) and the Path Exchange Place Station in Jersey City, New Jersey. In 1991 he became Area Manager overseeing several tunnel projects in Staten Island, New York.

In 1992 he was promoted to Executive Vice President and took on the assignment to diversify Grow's operations beyond tunnel work to include many new types of heavy construction work: sewage pump stations, power plant rehabs, railroad station reconstruction, bridge and elevated structure rehabs and reservoir construction.

in 1993 he became President of Grow. Peter Kiewit Sons, Inc., had purchased Grow Tunneling Corporation in 1988 and in 1999 changed the name of the company to Kiewit Constructors, Inc.

Peter continued as President of Kiewit Constructors until he took an early retirement at the end of 2001. He continues to be active within the industry as a Consultant.

Pete served as Treasurer of The Moles and as Chairman of the Awards Committee before taking on the duties of Vice President and President. He has been active in the General Contractors Association of New York City, serving on the Labor Negotiating Committee.

He is a licensed engineer in New York and New Jersey and a Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and The Beavers.

Pete and his wife Valerie have three children; Amy is a Financial Analyst living and working in New York City; Marc is an engineering student at the University of Michigan and Gary is a high school student living with his parents in New City, New York..

## **22 New Members Elected**

At the Executive Committee meeting on April 2, 2002, twenty three new members (listed below) were elected to membership in The Moles.

Gaby M. Antoun  
Perini Corporation  
Vincent F. Barletta  
Barletta Engineering Corp.  
Kenneth Chadwick  
Hayward Baker, Inc.  
Frank S. Chuang  
L.C. Associates Eng. & Const Svcs  
John Civetta, Jr.  
John Civetta & Sons, Inc.  
Peter W. Deming  
Mueser Rutledge Consulting Eng.  
Michael F. Donnino  
Granite Construction Company  
Joseph L. Ehaz  
Washington Group International  
Terrence M. Flynn  
Perini Corporation  
Margarita D. Gagliardi  
STV Incorporated  
Mamoud Hosseini  
The Clark Construction Group, Inc.  
James M. Hughes III  
Conesco Industries, Ltd.  
Leo B. Iking  
Weeks Marine, Inc.  
Leon J. Jacobs  
Frontier Kemper Constructors, Inc.  
Anthony R. Lancellotti  
Bechtel/Parsons Brinckerhoff  
Richard D. McDonald  
Weeks Marine, Inc.  
Michael V. Mergentime  
MERCOC, INC.  
David M. Plotkin  
Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Inc.  
Joseph Ramaglia  
New York City DEP  
Jack R. Roadhouse  
Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.  
Peter C. Schmall  
Moretrench American, Corp.  
Janice L. Tuchman  
Engineering News Record

The July issue of *Holing Through* will contain a brief profile of each new member.

## **STUDENT'S DAY APRIL 12, 2002**



Another successful Student's Day. Over 200 students and faculty attended the program sponsored by The Moles Education Committee on Friday, April 12th. The site was the Reconstruction of Routes I-87 and I-287 (Approaches to the Tappan Zee Bridge) in Westchester County, New York by Yonkers Contracting Company.

Without the cooperation of Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, New York, The Moles would not have been able to sponsor this trip. Besides having a great project to visit, the need for an assembly place with adequate parking and lecture facilities that can accommodate 250 or more people is an absolute necessity. More about this and Mercy College in the July issue of *Holing Through*.

## **WHY WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW ?**

*Why worry about tomorrow  
And the rising of the sun  
or anguish over past mistakes that cannot  
be undone?*

*Why waste life's precious moments on  
things that bruise the heart, When today  
is ours to fashion  
Into a work of art?*

*Today comes but once, my friend, It can  
never return*

*So use it wisely while you can,  
There's a lesson you may learn.*

*Let history record the past  
And tomorrow, come what may.*

*Be content to do your best  
With what you have today*

# NEWS OF MEMBERS

JOHN F. DONOHOE, of Moretrench American Corporation, is serving this year as the President of the Construction Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers. ASCE recently reorganized several of its Divisions into Institutes. John succeeded CHARLEY MERGENTIME, the Institute's first president and BRIAN KAUB, of Granite Construction Company is the likely successor to John Donohoe.

RONALD A. GOTTLIEB was named President and Chief Executive Officer for the New York City School Construction Authority, a New York State Agency whose mission is to manage the design and construction of New York City school construction projects. Ron previously was owner of Gottlieb Heavy Industries prior to its sale to Skanska.

ROGER J. LUDLAM has been named President of PB Constructor Inc., the newly formed design build and construction subsidiary of Parsons Brinckerhoff. Roger, 1997 President of The Moles, more recently served as President and CEO of Washington Group Infrastructure and Mining. Previously he served as President and CEO of Perini Corporation. Earlier, Roger spent 25 years with S.J. Groves & Company.

ERIC O'NEIL, of New England Foundation Company, was awarded the prestigious American Society of Civil Engineers Martin S. Kapp Foundation Engineering Award for his numerous creative and innovative methods for solving deep foundation problems, including his work in developing pressure-injected footings.

Another prestigious American Society of Civil Engineers Award, the John I. Parcel - Leif J. Sverdrup Civil Engineering Management Award, is being presented to DAVID E. THOMPSON, Chairman of Haley & Aldrich, Inc. The award is in recognition of significant contributions in leadership and management skills in the field of civil engineering.

## VERY FAVORABLE RATE FOR ROOMS AT NEW YORK HILTON HOTEL

The Moles has been holding its Annual Award Dinner at The New York Hilton Hotel since 1970, likely making us their longest standing customer. The hotel has recognized our loyalty by offering the very attractive rate of \$209.00 per night (down from \$240.00) for Rooms for our upcoming functions, including the 2003 Award Dinner. Members must observe the cut-off dates to qualify for this rate. Make your reservations early. Too often we hear from members who dallied too long and could not get The Moles rate.

2002 MOLES CLAMBAKE AT  
NEWLY RENOVATED TRAVERS  
ISLAND CLUBHOUSE ON  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2002

LIMITED NUMBER OF GOLFERS

As you can see from the above, there is good news and bad news with regard to the upcoming 2002 Clambake.

The bad news is that the number of golfers at The Leewood Golf Club will be reduced from the numbers of the past several years - 130 in 2001. We have been fortunate to have this fine golfing facility available to The Moles but the large numbers have limited the availability of the course to the club members. Those interested in playing in 2002 should make their reservations early.

The good news is that the Travers Island clubhouse has undergone a major renovation and should be even more comfortable and enjoyable than in the past. Mark the date on your calendar and come out and have a relaxing and enjoyable day with your fellow Moles and friends.

## 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 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 07677. Telephone: 201-930-1923 Fax: 201-930-8501 Executive Director: Gerard J. Carty, P.E.

## **CLASS OF 1962 HAS EXTRAORDINARY NUMBER RECEIVING 40 YEAR CERTIFICATES, INCLUDING 6 LIFE MEMBERS**

Typically, at this time of the year, The Moles honors two to five members as forty year members. It is by far a record that fifteen Moles members will be recognized for forty years of membership at the May 1, 2002 Business Meeting and Dinner. Five members (as noted below) will be welcomed to the highest form of Moles membership, LIFE MEMBER, having been active and dues paying members for forty years.

Page 5 (to the right) comes from the August 1962 issue of *Holing Through* and shows the 39 new members who attended their first Moles event, the May 1962 Annual Meeting and Dinner.

Those deserving congratulations are the following:

**WILLIAM A. ABRAHAMSON** (Middle photo; front row; second from right) Was with M-K in 1962. Moved on to C.H. Leavell & Company. Continues to live in Dallas, Texas.

**JACK J. BURKE** (Middle photo; front row; second from left) "Mr. Gardener-Denver". Continues to be active in industry writing column for TBM on tunnel projects throughout USA. Living in Roanoke, Virginia.

**JACK E. DOWNEN** (Middle photo; back row; third from right) Career in powder industry with Atlas Powder Company. Living in Lake Kiowa, Texas.

**HERBERT E. FLETCHER** (Middle photo; back row; second from left) Spent career with H.E. Fletcher Co., quarrying and fabricating granite for tunnels, bridges, piers, etc. Living in Washington, D.C. Planning to attend May 1st dinner.

**DAVID H. GRIFFIN LIFE MEMBER** (Middle photo - front row - First person at left) Career with Griffin Wellpoint Corp. Living in Bronxville, New York.

**LOUIS W. HALL** (Bottom photo; back row; first at right) Career with Turner Construction Company. Longtime resident of Scarsdale, New York.

**THOMAS W. HALLIGAN** (Middle photo; back row; third from left) Career with Walsh Construction Company and then with Guy. F. Atkinson Company. Living in Menlo Park, California.

**JAMES E. HALPIN** (Bottom photo; back row; third from right) career in materials business, first with Transit Mix Concrete and then with William J. McCormack Sand Co. Lives in Manhasset, Long Island.

**HUBERT F. KARCHER** (Bottom photo; back row; second from left) Career with New York City contractor, Tully & DiNapoli. Living in Balston Spa, New York.

**RICHARD W. LOUGHNEY LIFE MEMBER** (Bottom photo; back row; first at left) Founded Loughney Dewatering Company. Living in New Preston, Connecticut.

**STANLEY MERJAN LIFE MEMBER** (Bottom photo; back row; second from right) "Mr. Pile Driving". Career with Underpinning & Foundation Constructors, Inc. Continues very active in industry. Lives in Sands Point, Long Island.

**CLAYTON E. MULLINS** (Top photo; back row; third from right) Early career with Corps of Engineers and then with several contractors and owners. Living in Winterville, Georgia

**FRANCIS X. MURPHY LIFE MEMBER** (Not in photos) Early career with Raymond and then time in Jamaica, W.I. building Montego Bay Airport, among other projects. Still active in business and living in Atlanta, Georgia.

**EMIL M. ONDREY LIFE MEMBER** (Top photo; first row; 1st person at left) Spent career with Michael J. Torpey, Inc., a New York City excavation contractor. Living in Jupiter Florida. Planning to attend May 1st dinner.

**GEROGE REIDER LIFE MEMBER** (Top photo; Front Row - Last person on right). After distinguished Navy service, worked for marine contractors, Frederick Snare and Spearin, Preston & Burrows. Still active in consulting work and living in Westfield, New Jersey.

Note: Deceased member, RAY MONTI of World Trade Center fame (Bottom photo; front row; first at left) .

### **CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR LONG CAREERS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

## 39 New Members Watch Birdie at May Dinner Meeting



FRONT ROW: Emil M. Ondrey of Michael J. Torpey Inc., Jacob Wegweiser of The Foundation Co., Robert G. Springer of Keystone Portland Cement, Samuel J. Zara of Zara Contracting, George Reider of Frederick Snare Corp. (Back row): Elwood P. Vroome of J. C. MacElroy Co., James J. Kerr of Spencer, White & Prentis, Michael J.

Ucci of Clyde Iron Works, Inc., Francis A. Vitolo of Corbetta Construction Co., George A. Vogel of American Bridge, Clayton E. Mullins of Atlantic Refining, James E. MacDonald III of Goodall Rubber, and Gen. W. E. Potter of the New York World's Fair.



FRONT ROW: David H. Griffin of Wellpoint Dewatering Corp., Jack J. Burke of Gardner-Denver Co., James J. Bruschi of Madigan-Hyland, William A. Abrahamson of Morrison-Knudsen, Ronald C. Baldwin of Thalman Equipment Co. (Back row): Robert W. Denny of Spearin, Preston & Burrows, Herbert E. Fletcher of H. E. Fletcher

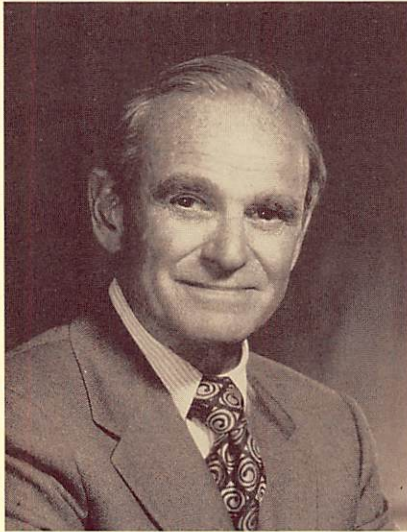
Co., Thomas W. Halligan of Walsh Construction Co., Anthony Bastone of Griffin Wellpoint, Williams D. Bailey of Seelye Stevenson Value & Knecht, James E. Downen of Atlas Chemical Industries Inc., Howard R. Burroughs of Johnson, Drake & Piper, and Clayton R. Carmen of L. B. Foster Co.



FRONT ROW: Rino M. Monti of Port of New York Authority, Albert E. Downes of Alpha Portland Cement, George H. Hollerith Jr. of The Foundation Co., John P. Moss of Moss-Thornton Co., Arthur J. Gold of Underpinning & Foundation Co. (Back row): Richard W. Loughney of Wellpoint Dewatering, Hubert F. Karcher of Tully &

DiNapoli, G. R. Compton Jr. of McKiernan-Terry Corp., John W. Herlihy of Western Foundation Corp., Vincent S. Fox of Frederic R. Harris Inc., James E. Halpin of Transit-Mix, Stanley Merjan of Underpinning & Foundation, and Louis W. Hall of Turner Construction Co.

**1972 Member Award Recipient  
and 1977 Moles President, Dan  
Lazar, Dies at Age 94**



DANIEL M. LAZAR

If one was to pick a person to epitomize what The Moles and a Mole's member is all about and a person for us all to emulate, DANIEL M. LAZAR would have to be at the top of the list. Dan was a person of extreme competence, both as an engineer and contractor, and a person of extremely high character.

Dan passed away peacefully in his sleep on December 27, 2001. He had been active right up to the end of his life having been in attendance at The Moles Award Committee meetings in 2001 and having reserved a ticket for the 2002 Award Dinner.

A 1929 graduate of Cornell University with a civil engineering degree, Dan founded Cayuga Construction Company in 1936 and was active in New York City subway and underground construction and other heavy construction work in the region for 35 years.

**LAZAR LETTER OF MAY 25, 1984 TO  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE MOLES**

“Thank you for my Fortieth Year certificate at the last meeting. It was a moving moment for me. As you said, forty years in the construction business is a long time, principally because of the change in the industry and its personalities.

I attended the first Moles Award Dinner when Bob Moses and Jack McDonald were the recipients, and only missed one of the rest. Arthur Johnson, Ray

(Continued - Column to the right)

(Lazar letter continued)

Spooner, Charlie Spencer, Tom Scott (the longest acceptance) Carlton Proctor, George Ferris, Harvey Slocum (the shortest acceptance) bring back memories of the early giants of the industry

The war years and post war years brought to our Award Dinners admirals, generals, even past presidents of our country. The other night Charles Mergentime spoke of The Moles tradition and stated that he would continue it. What is it? An entire membership of wonderful men bound together by mutual interests in a challenging business enjoying it to the hilt. Today's members carry on the tradition of the early leaders of the industry.”

**Gerard A. Neumann, Sr.**

Life Member, GERARD A. NEUMANN, SR., died on January 15, 2002 at the age of 87. Jerry graduated from Union College in 1936 and went to work for the then pre-eminent marine construction company, Merritt Chapman & Scott. In 1938 he moved on to Spearin, Preston & Burrows, where he was to remain for more than 50 years.

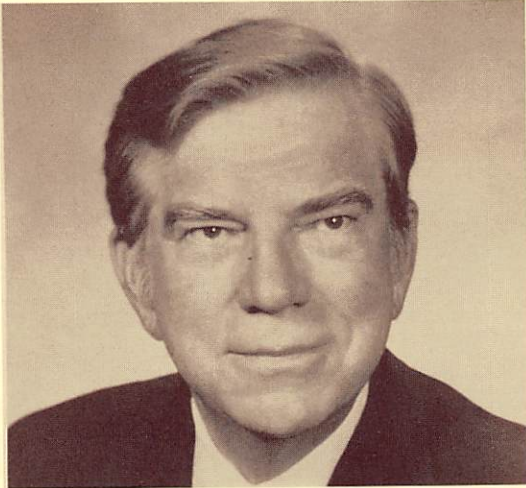
Upon his withdrawal from day to day activities, he was succeeded by his sons, GERARD A. NEUMANN, JR. (1995 Moles President) and George P Neumann (former Chairman of The Moles Award Committee). In 2001, Jerry Sr.'s grandson, (Jerry Jr.'s son) Matthew Neumann, was accepted into membership in The Moles.

Spearin, Preston & Burrows has been active in marine construction in the New York area and in other parts of the country and was recently purchased by The Modern Continental Construction Company.



Jerry Neumann receiving his Life Member Certificate from Moles' President Bob Gates in May 1986

## 1984 Non Member Award



**GEORGE T. MC COY**

GEORGE T. MC COY, Recipient of the 1984 Moles Non Member Award, died on January 20, 2002 in Burlingame, California at the age of 81. George was a 1940 civil engineering graduate of Stanford University and after service in the U.S. Navy and six years with the California Highways Department, he joined Guy F. Atkinson Company in 1952. After working on many of Atkinson's heavy construction projects, George was named CEO in 1978 and remained in that position until 1985. He retired from the company in 1986. he served on the Board of Directors of Manitowoc from 1985 to 2000 and was the Recipient of the 1985 Golden Beaver Management Award in 1985.

## In Memorium

### *Member for 53 Years, Francis Thomas*

FRANCIS THOMAS was honored as a 50 year Moles member in 1997 and was present to receive his certificate at the November 5th Business Meeting. He worked for S.J. Groves from 1941 to 1949. In 1950 he was asked by Benjamin J. Fairless, CEO of United States Steel Corporation, to form a new subsidiary and build the facilities to bring the Cerro Bolivar Iron Ore in Venezuela to world markets. Subsequently, in 1954, he became President of Orinoco Mining Company in Venezuela. In 1965 he went to Perth, Australia to develop the Mt. Newman Iron ore deposits.

EMIL R. MC CONNELL died on January 9, 2002. Following a prestigious career spanning six decades of service to the geotechnical community, Emil retired in 1994 as President of New Jersey Drilling Co., and D.F. Well Drilling, Inc. His colleagues will remember him for his quick wit and his numerous innovations in the development of pneumatic rock drilling equipment and techniques. Emil and his companies played key roles in such projects as the Lincoln Tunnel and the NYC Water Tunnels.

JAMES C. NELSON died on December 22, 2001 in Santa Rosa, California at the age of 75. He was a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and earned a Master of Science degree from Harvard University. At the time of becoming a member of the Moles, he was a Vice President of Spencer, White & Prentiss located in San Francisco and in charge of their west coast operations. He subsequently established his own geotechnical practice, retiring in 1995.

## BUSINESS AND FUN AT FLORIDA MEETING



Even the spouses were interested in the presentation on the World Trade Center by Tamaro, Weeks and others.



What a good band can do. Who said The Moles is an organization of over the hill people?

## ***ANOTHER RECORD TURNOUT AT AWARD DINNER***

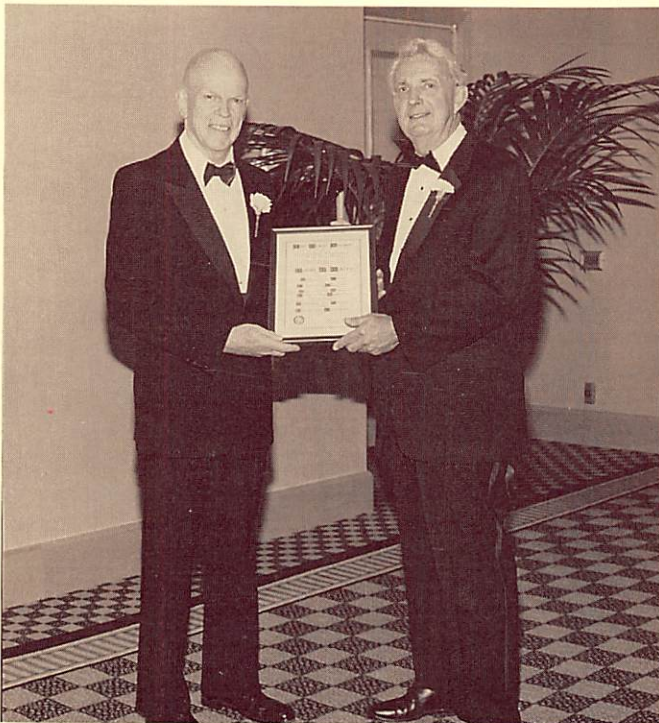
Another record turnout of Moles members and guests assembled in the Grand Ballroom of the New York Hilton Hotel on Wednesday evening, January 30, 2002 to honor two construction men for their outstanding achievements in heavy construction. DAVID H. WATTS, CEO of Granite Construction Company, Watsonville, California, was the recipient of the Non Member Award and BYRON F. (SKIP) WETMORE, recently retired CEO of The Lane Construction Corporation, Meriden, Connecticut was the recipient of the Member Award. GEORGE B. SEARLE presented the award to Dave Watts and RICH WEEKS presented the Award to Skip Wetmore.

All of the speakers spoke very well but Skip Wetmore gave a particularly stirring address. He presented his view as to how a Moles member and CEO of a construction company should conduct himself and do business in the construction industry (and of course his advice would extend to all businesses). In very simple and basic language, Skip emphasizes the need to speak and do business in a clear, forthright and honest way. That is what has characterized the great men and companies in our industry and it is advice that all should follow.

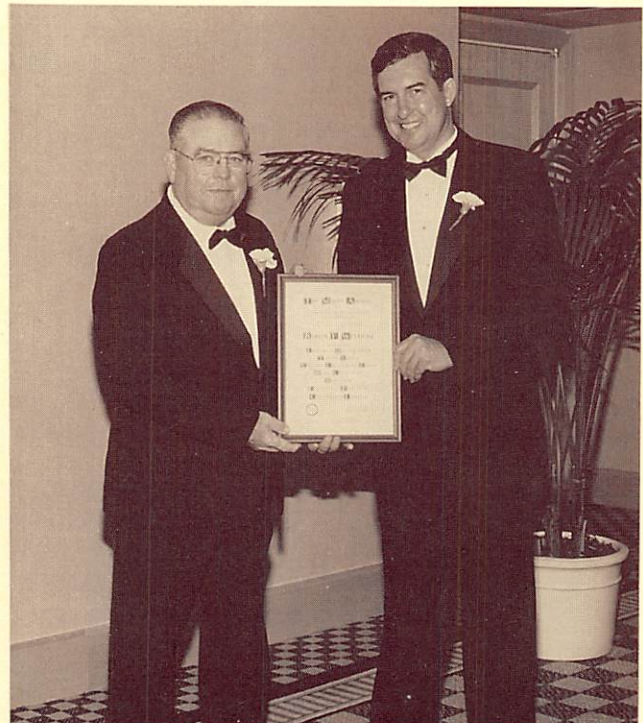
Its gotten so that everyone in the industry wants to be present at The Moles Annual Award Dinner. This years dinner followed upon the record turnout of the previous year with the 2002 attendance up over 100., totalling just under 1700. Seating on the main floor was full and the balcony had room for only a few more guests. The Executive Committee reviewed the situation at its March meeting and concluded that when the occupancy of the ballroom is reached, there will be no further tickets sold. With the trend of the past several years, the capacity of the ballroom will likely be reached at the 2003 Dinner. Best to get your ticket requests in early.

The Spouse's Dinner and Show continues to attract a large number of participants. This year 70 spouses enjoyed dinner in the Halcyon Restaurant in the Rihga Royal Hotel , just across the street from the Hilton Hotel. They then proceeded by chartered bus to the Broadway show, "42 and Street". They all got back to The Hilton just about when the dinner concluded.

The Construction Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Underground Association both sponsored seminars on Tuesday and Wednesday of the same week to take advantage of those attending The Moles Dinner.



Dave Watts (left) with George Searle



Skip Wetmore (left) with Rich Weeks