

**NEWS BULLETIN**

AN ASSOCIATION OF INDIVIDUALS



**OF THE MOLES**

ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

***HOLING***

***THROUGH***

JULY, 2008

***MEL FEBESH  
BECOMES LIFE MEMBER***



President **ALFRED H. BRAND** presents Life Member certificate to **MELVIN FEBESH** at the May 7th Business Meeting and Dinner.

Members who have been dues-paying members for forty years shall be declared Life Members of The Moles. **MELVIN FEBESH** reached this distinguished class of membership on May 1, 2008. Mel spent his early career with Spencer, White and Prentis and in 1972 joined Urban Foundation Company, where he continues to play an active role. He earned a Civil Engineering degree from New York University and a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois. He was the Recipient of the 1997 Moles Member Award. (See more about May 7th Business Meeting on Page 8).

In addition to Mel Febesh, there are thirteen other life Members: **JAMES C. ARMITAGE, WELDON S. BOOTH, ROBERT S. GATES, DAVID H. GRIFFIN, VICTOR B. HERTSLET, GAIL B. KNIGHT, ROBERT G. LENZ, RICHARD W. LOUGHNEY, STANLEY MERJAN, NORMAN A. NADEL, EMIL M. ONDRY, GEORGE REIDER AND JACK T. WALLE.**

**CLAMBAKE  
TUESDAY  
August 5, 2008**

***GOLF AT LEEWOOD  
GOLF CLUB AND  
PELHAM COUNTRY CLUB  
IN THE A.M.***

**TRAVERS ISLAND**

**REGISTRATION  
11:30A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**

**LUNCH  
11:30 A.M. to 2:00 PM.**

**OUTDOOR GAMES  
2 P.M. to 5 P.M.**

**TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

**SOFTBALL GAME**

**SWIMMING**

**TUG BOAT TRIPS**

**SURF & TURF DINNER  
SERVED AT 5:30 P.M.**

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2008**

The following Committee assignments have been made for the current year.

**AWARD COMMITTEE:** Stephen J. Barlow, Chairman; Arthur B. Corwin, Vice Chairman; Members-at-Large: Thomas Iovino and Joseph M. McCann

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Richard D MacDonald, Chairman; Anthony J. Mazzo, Vice Chairman; Members: William F. Daly, Donald P. Dobbs, David S. Gedney, James E. Kelley, John L. Kolaya, Vincent D. Krause, James M. Marquardt and Charles J. Montalbano

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:** John R. Roma, Chairman; Wesley Bermel, Vice Chairman; Members: Gary Almeraris, Henry K. Cheung, Nelson Ferreira, John Civetta, Jr., Margarita D. Gagliardi, Leon J. Jacobs, Martin P. McDermott, David M. Plotkin, and Michael T. Traylor

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Val S. McWhorter, Chairman; Members: Henry E. Adams, David F. Benton, David Casey, Brian C. Kaub and John F. McNamara III

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Michael M. McHugh, Chairman; Cesare De Rose, Vice Chairman; Members: Charles Androsiglio, Ali M. Catik, Martin T. Corcoran, Domenic D'Argenzio, Michael J. Goldstein, Thomas O'Donnell and Paul C. Schmall

**PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:** Thomas A. Gelormino, Chairman; Gerard P. Brady, Vice Chairman; Members: Andre Ameer, Arthur J. Blattner, Kirk D. Junco, Joel Moskowitz, James Strobel and Janice L. Tuchman

### **SOMETHING NEW IN HOLING THROUGH**

Starting in this issue of *Holing Through*, and continuing each July, there will be an article featuring the current Moles President's company. (See article on page 5 about Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers.)

## **JOIN YOUR FELLOW MOLES AND FRIENDS FOR THE 2008 CLAMBAKE**



Travers Island is the summer facility of the New York Athletic Club, located in Pelham Manor, Westchester County, New York. 2008 will mark the 61st year since The Moles' first Clambake at Travers Island.

This magnificent facility, right on Long Island Sound, contains a modernized clubhouse, an Olympic size swimming pool, a marina, numerous tennis courts and ample grounds for softball and other games.

Moles members and their guests come to the Clambake to spend time with friends and business colleagues, to renew old acquaintances and to forge new friendships. The day starts with a buffet lunch, followed by an afternoon of activities (including tugboat rides) and a surf and turf dinner. Morning golf is also available.

**COME OUT, RELAX AND HAVE A GREAT DAY**

### **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 07677. Telephone: 201-930-1923 Fax: 201-930-8501  
Website: [www.themoles.info](http://www.themoles.info); Executive Director and Editor of *Holing Through*: Gerard J. Carty, P.E. Email: [carty.moles@verizon.net](mailto:carty.moles@verizon.net)

## ***BUSINESS ETHICS INITIATIVE***

If one were to examine the five objectives of The Moles listed in the By Laws of The Moles, one would find the following: *The Moles shall promote better acquaintance among individuals engaged in the heavy construction industry to the end -*

*d. That in the public interest, standards of construction shall be raised both as to engineering and business ethics.*

With this in mind, it was refreshing to see an article in the May 12, 2008 issue of ENR, entitled *Construction Contractors Follow Defense Peers in Ethics Push*.

*Construction firms are aiming to mirror what the defense industry contractors did in the late 1980's by launching a new business ethics initiative.*

The following Moles members' companies are among the thirteen general contractors which are leading this effort:

Clark Construction Group	The Lane Construction Corp.
Granite Construction	Traylor Bros., Inc.
Kenny Construction	The Walsh Group
Kiewit Corp.	Zachry Construction Corp.

All Moles member firms are encouraged to conduct their businesses in accord with highest ethical standards. It is the best thing for each company and for our industry.

## ***NEWS OF MEMBERS***

**CESARE DE ROSE**, a Manhattan College civil engineering graduate and currently Vice President of DMJM HARRIS, received the Thomas C. Kavanaugh Service Award from the Metropolitan Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers for his contributions by his public service to the status of Civil Engineering.

Our apologies to **KENNETH P. FELSBURG, JR.** for failing to recognize him in 2007 as a forty year member of The Moles. Ken spent 19 years with Allan N. Spooner and then worked for Peter Kiewit before concluding his career with Amtrak.

**RAYMOND HENN and JAMES MONSEES** have been honored by the UCA of the Society of Mining Engineers.

**Ray Henn** has received the Outstanding Individual Award. A Principal in Lyman Henn, Denver, CO, a firm specializing in geotechnical and tunnel engineering and consulting, he earned a Ph.D. in Mining Engineering and served as President of the American Underground Association.

**Jim Monsees** is the recipient of the Society's Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes achievements in underground design. He is a Senior Vice President of Parsons Brinckerhoff and is the company's technical director on worldwide projects. He holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri.

## **THE MOLES WEBSITE**

***www.themoles.info***

The Moles website has proved to be very useful to Moles members and non-members alike. It contains a plethora of useful information. For non members, it explains what the Moles is all about, its history and objectives with a great number of interesting photographs. For members, the following sections might be the most useful:

**ORGANIZATION:** Here can be found a listing of all the officers, committee chairmen and committee members. Also included in this section is a copy of The Moles By-Laws and Code of Procedure.

**MEMBERSHIP:** One can find here information as to how to nominate a candidate for membership and the required form to do so.

**CALENDAR:** Here is listed the calendar of upcoming events as well as the various committee meeting dates.

**EDUCATION:** Among other information in this section is the Career Connection, which puts prospective students seeking employment (Summer, intern and permanent) in touch with Moles members and their companies.

**INFORMATION CENTER:** Here one can find copies of the current issue of Holing Through along with the most recent issues of The Moles newsletter.

Every Moles member should familiarize oneself with the resources available on this website. Again, thanks to PB for their assistance in establishing this state of the art website and updating it on a regular basis.

# NEW MEMBERS



**Left to Right: Front Row - Minhaj A. Kirmani, Ronald Treloni, Edward Nyland, John D. Wise, Wayne Thomas, Joseph V. McIlhinney  
Back Row - Raymond G. Gizzi, William G. Duguay, Richard B. Manning, Paul F. Wagner, Michael M. Cote, Paul A. Beljan.**

RICHARD T. ANDERSON is President of the New York Building Congress and is a nationally recognized urban planner. He earned his bachelors degree from Rutgers University, a masters degree from Cornell University and completed post-graduate doctoral studies in public administration from New York University.

FRANCIS J. ARLAND is a Partner in Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers (MRCE). He earned his Civil Engineering degree from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from Drexel University. His earlier Coast Guard experience has served him well on MRCE's waterfront projects.

PAUL A. BELJAN is employed as a Project Manager by Peter Kiewit Sons at the World Trade Center. He studied Construction Management at Drexel University and the University of Houston and joins his father, Al Beljan, and his brother, Marc Beljan, as a member of The Moles.

ROBERT J. BERRY earned his Civil Engineering degree from Northeastern University and upon graduation in 1979, went to work for the then fledgling company, Modern Continental Construction Company. In 2005, he joined J. F. White Contracting Company, where he serves as project manager.

JOHN T. COONEY, JR.'s family owned and operated County Asphalt in Westchester County, New York, a company in business for over 80 years. John's uncle, Frank Cooney, was a long standing member of The Moles. Upon the sale of County Asphalt to Tilcon, John became a part of Tilcon organization and serves as President of Tilcon New York.

MICHAEL M. COTE is a 1984 Civil Engineering graduate of the University of Maine. Shortly thereafter he joined The Lane Construction Corporation, where he is currently Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer—Plants, responsible for 70 asphalt plants around the country.

A 1983 Civil Engineering graduate of the University of Massachusetts, WILLIAM G. DUGUAY is currently employed as Houston Area Manager by J.D. Abrams, L.P., overseeing heavy construction projects. Prior to that, he was employed by Traylor Brothers.

RAYMOND G. GIZZI is a Civil Engineering graduate of Manhattan College and after a 25 year education hiatus went on to earn a Masters degree in Civil Engineering, also from Manhattan College. He has transformed a small Westchester, New York contractor, ECCO III Enterprises, Inc., into a formidable heavy construction contractor.

MINHAJ A. KIRMANI, a principal of Welding Associates, Inc., New York City, has been responsible for the design of numerous large scale projects in the United States and abroad. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Karachi and Masters and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Massachusetts.

RICHARD B. MANNING is a 1980 Civil Engineering graduate of Lehigh University and serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Engineer of D'Annunzio & Sons, Inc., Clark, New Jersey. Following in the footsteps of other Moles members, he is a Recipient of the 2007 Bonhag Engineer Constructor Award by the New Jersey Professional Engineers in Construction.

JAMES H. MARTINEZ is Vice President of Construction Services of Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., White Plains, New York. In this capacity he has been involved in and overseen the construction of the major water treatment plants constructed in recent years by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. He holds a Civil Engineering degree from Clarkson University.

JORGE MARTINEZ is Vice President of Bechtel Infrastructure. He has served as project manager for major infrastructure construction programs as well as having operational responsibilities for multiple construction projects. He holds a Geology degree from Humboldt State University.

JOSEPH V. MC ILHINNEY, a Civil Engineering graduate of Villanova University, is currently Project Executive with Granite Construction Northeast. He has had extensive marine construction experience, having worked previously for Ole Hanson & Sons, Gates Construction and Perini Corporation.

MICHAEL F. MC KENNA is both a civil engineer and attorney. He earned his Civil Engineering degree from Manhattan College and his JD degree from Pace University School of Law and is Senior Partner of Lewis & McKenna, Saddle River, New Jersey.

EDWARD NYLAND has enjoyed a 37 year career with George Harms Construction Company, Farmingdale, New Jersey, where he currently serves as President of Business Development. He earned a Mechanical Engineering degree from New Jersey Institute of Technology.

JIM W. ROSTECK is a 1973 Civil Engineering graduate of Michigan Technological University and has been employed by J. F. Shea Construction, Inc., in a number of senior positions. A true Mole, he has been involved in major tunnel projects in Texas, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Massachusetts and New York City.

WAYNE THOMAS serves as Project Sponsor for Kiewit Construction Company and is currently overseeing the challenging reconstruction of the 145 Swing Bridge over the Harlem River in Bronx, New York. He holds Bachelors degrees in both Civil Engineering and Architectural Engineering from Drexel University.



**Left to Right: Front Row—Robert J. Berry, John T. Cooney, Jr., Jorge Martinez, James H. Martinez  
Back Row—Richard T. Anderson, Francis J. Arland, Jim W. Rosteck, Michael F. McKenna**

After an earlier career with Raymond International and Spiniello Construction Company, RONALD TRELTONI founded his own construction company in 1987, specializing in marine and foundation work. He is a Civil Engineering graduate of Tufts University.

PAUL F. WAGNER earned his Civil Engineering degree from the University of Delaware and upon graduation joined Edwards & Kelcey. After ten years' service with that company, he joined Raytheon Engineers and Constructors for a period, but returned to Edwards & Kelcey in 2002 and is now Division Vice President of the successor company, Jacobs.

JOHN D. WISE has been with Nicholson Construction Company for over twenty years and is currently Senior Vice President, responsible for the company's operations throughout the Northeastern United States. He is a Civil Engineering graduate of Carnegie Mellon University and he earned a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

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**ANNUAL FALL  
DINNER  
WEDNESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 5, 2008  
New York Hilton**

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**AWARD DINNER  
WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 28, 2009  
New York Hilton**

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**WINTER MEETING  
February 26, 2009 to  
March 1, 2009**

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**HAVE YOU MOVED?  
CHANGED YOUR  
AFFILIATION?**

**Please Don't Get Lost in the  
Shuffle.  
Notify the Moles**

# *Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers*



The Woodrow Wilson Bridge carrying I-95 and I-495 across the Potomac River south of Washington, D.C.

Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers is America's oldest firm specializing in foundations and subsurface engineering. Founded in 1910 by Daniel E. Moran, today the firm has a distinguished roster of clients and more than 11,000 completed projects covering the United States and extending around the world.

Mueser Rutledge provides professional services for geotechnical and foundation engineering and the design of underground and waterfront structures. Concentrating the firm's work in these specialized areas enables the partners, associates and staff to take advantage of technological developments and increasingly sophisticated theoretical tools to develop innovative and creative solutions to foundation problems. The firm maintains only one design office so that the partners can be in continuous touch with all projects. The partners participate actively in the planning and technical work of the firm and follow each project through completion.

The firm has the oldest private engineering soils laboratory in the United States and extensive files of subsoil and foundation data for much of the United States and many other parts of the Western Hemisphere.

The firm's goal on each project is to provide optimal structural performance and reasonable construction costs. To accomplish this, design concepts are reviewed internally to provide practical buildable solutions.

The firm's history has been parallel to the history of development of foundation engineering in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and continuing into the current Century. The firm's founder, Daniel Moran, held multiple patents for foundation related items, including caisson foundation technology and

the sand drain. The firm's soils laboratory, originally established in the mid 1930's, has been continuously enhanced to support a high level of testing, which provides refined designs to take advantage of realistic soil properties. The firm has been a leader in slurry wall design and other innovative methods such as top-down construction.

The predecessors of the current partners of the firm were not only leaders in foundation engineering, but were also active leaders and participants in the Moles. They include several Moles member award recipients and several Moles past presidents.

As the firm approaches its 100<sup>th</sup> year, it is by no means resting on past laurels. Modern technology is increasingly part of the firm's practice. Analytical tools, such as the computer program Plaxis, allow estimates of soil-structure interaction and deformation that were not possible only a few years ago. With the increasing importance of earthquake engineering in certain sectors of the country, particularly in the Northeast, the firm has introduced cross-hole seismic testing and sophisticated earthquake analysis methods to develop design parameters, which can sometimes be more efficient and economical than straight code-applied values. The firm's expertise in instrumentation is growing rapidly in response to the need for more sophisticated monitoring of deformations and stresses as complex construction projects proceed.

Throughout its history, Mueser Rutledge has been involved with many major projects, including the original San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge, the Vertical Assembly Building at Cape Canaveral, the MesseTurm in Frankfurt Germany and Battery Park City in New York. Recent current projects include Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, Citi Field (Mets Stadium) in Queens, Atlantic Yards Development in Brooklyn, and the new Woodrow Wilson Bridge outside Washington D.C.

One of the strengths of the firm is to provide assistance to Contractors for design of temporary structures or for "value engineering" redesign of permanent structures.

The current partners, associates, and staff carry on the rich tradition of their predecessors, which is to focus on the structural aspects of foundation and geotechnical engineering in order to provide realistic, efficient and economical designs for subsurface and waterfront projects.

## *May They Rest in Peace*

### ***J. Patrick Powers Dead at 81***

Pat Powers, considered by many to be the foremost expert on construction dewatering, died in Dover, New Jersey on May 15, 2008.

His engineering career spanned 50 years, during which he was Chief Engineer for Moretrench American Corporation and a consultant for Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers. In January 2008, he was the recipient of the American Society of Civil Engineers prestigious Roebling Award and most recently completed the third edition of his book *Construction Dewatering*. Pat leaves behind all the engineers he taught to carry on his groundwater work with the same attention to details, practical insight and professionalism he applied to every undertaking.

**WILSON V. BINGER**, one of the country's leading civil engineers, died on April 21, 2008, at the age of 91. A graduate of Harvard University and a World War II Corps of Engineers officer, he joined Tippetts-Abbett-McCarthy-Stratton (TAMS) in 1952, where he became a Partner and subsequently Chairman. His most noteworthy project was Tarbella Dam on the Indus River in Pakistan, which to this day is the world's largest earth embankment dam.

**FRANK L. FLOOD, JR.** died on April 8, 2008 at the age of 80. He was a Civil Engineering graduate of Worcester Polytechnic University and spent the major part of his career with Dravo Corporation, winding up his career as Chief Engineer of the Perini Corporation Heavy Group.

**MARTIN W. BOLL** died on May 8, 2008 at the age of 96. He spent 39 years with Richmond Screw Anchor Co. and enjoyed a long retirement in Bethel, New York.

### ***1999 Award Recipient Martin Kelley***



**MARTIN N. KELLEY**

Martin Kelley died on June 18, 2008, at his home in Oregon at the age of 80.

After graduating from Oregon State College (now known as Oregon State University), he began his engineering career with City of Salem. He soon moved to San Francisco, where he joined Peter Kiewit Sons. During his 42 year career with Kiewit, he served as Vice President and Chief Engineer and as President of Kiewit Engineering Company. He worked on numerous major construction and tunneling projects around the world, including the San Francisco Trans-Bat Tube (BART) and the Danish Great Belt Crossing off the coast of Denmark. He was honored in 1988 with the Golden Beaver Award and by The Moles in 1999 with its Outstanding Achievement in Construction Award. He also was the recipient of ASCE's Roebling Award.

Martin shared his success and wealth as a philanthropist, contributing over \$20 Mil. to Oregon State University. He was also the first \$100,000.00 contributor to the Moles Scholarship Fund. He was truly a fine civil engineer and person.

### ***Former Moles President Bud Gray***



**GARELD R. GRAY**

Bud Gray, 1979 President of The Moles, died on April 18, 2008 in Doylestown, PA, at the age of 92.

Originally from Minneapolis, the bulk of his career was spent in New Jersey, first with his own company and then with S.J. Groves & Sons, at that time one of the largest highway and bridge builders in the country. He served as Vice President and Area Manager for Groves and much of his work was on the New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway and Route 280, where on one project with 1,500,000 cubic yards of rock excavation, he devised a 6 mile single track rail to haul the excavated rocks to the fill area, 6 miles distant. Bud served as president of the New Jersey AGC in 1974.

**EUGENE G. MURPHY** died on December 27, 2007 at the age of 79. He earned a Civil Engineering degree from Washington State University. After working for Frazier Davis on the New York Aqueduct, Glen Canyon tunnels and the Oakland section of BART, he joined Gordon H. Ball, Inc., where he served as Eastern Area Manager. He finished his career with J. F. Shea Construction Company.

# Annual Business Meeting—May 7, 2008



Al Brand receives gavel from Rich Weeks



Al Brand presents Life Emeritus certificate to Gerard Fox

**MEMBERS DINNERS** Each year, there are two members-only meetings and dinners for Moles members; one in the Spring and one in the Fall. The Spring meeting and dinner, which occurs just after the close of the Mole's fiscal year on April 30th, is called the Annual Business Meeting, held this year on May 7th. The evening activities consist of a lecture on a subject of interest to Moles members (this year an update on the East Side Access Project), followed by a cocktail hour and then the meeting and dinner. Reports are given at this meeting by the Secretary, the Treasurer and all of the Committee Chairmen. New Officers and Committee Chairmen are then introduced.

