



# HOLING

# THROUGH

MAY, 2024

## John F. McNamara III Moles President for 2024-25

**J**ohn F. McNamara, Vice President of A.A. Will Corporation, has been elected to serve as President of the Moles for the year 2024-2025. The “official” passing of the gavel occurred at the May 2, 2024, Members Dinner and Annual Business Meeting held at the New York Marriott Marquis. Additional 2024 Moles executive officers are: First Vice President, Michael A. D’Annunzio, D’Annunzio Group, Inc.; Second Vice President, John H. O’Keefe, Underpinning and Foundation Skanska; Secretary, Michael Ryan, Yonkers Contracting Company; Treasurer, Thomas J. Groark, and Sergeant-At-Arms, Vincent A. Sambrato, Parsons. Trustees newly elected this year are Francis Arland, Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers and Anthony Del Vescovo, Walsh Construction.

John F. McNamara III was born in Boston, MA, in 1958, and moved with his family to western Massachusetts in 1968. He attended Agawam High School, graduating in 1976, and went on to study Civil Engineering at Northeastern University. He was attracted to Northeastern by the Co-Operative education program; while taking five years to graduate, the required four (6) month internships provided students with invaluable work experience in their field of study with the added bonus of earning enough to pay for a large portion of educational expenses. John’s first co-op assignment was in the estimating department with Pre-Designed Structures in Bloomfield, Ct., where his passion for the field and infrastructure work became apparent. His most impressionable co-op assignment was with The Barletta Company as an assistant field engineer on a road and bridge project rehabilitating the interchange of I-290 and I-495 in Marlborough, MA and extending a connector road to Rt 85 in Hudson; ironically, about 5 miles away from the site of The Moles New England Student Day project for both 2023 & 2024, hosted by Barletta at the MassDot’s I-495/I-90 Interchange Improvements Project. John recalled that his co-op with Barletta was an invaluable exposure to all aspects of highway and bridge building and was instrumental in propelling John’s career after graduating Northeastern University with his BSCE in 1981.

John joined Modern Continental Construction Company in August of 1982, as a project superintendent, where he progressed thru the ranks serving as project manager, Vice President and ultimately promoted to Senior Vice President in 1998, remaining there until joining A.A Will in 2007. He has overseen over 200 Public and Private Infrastructure



**John F. McNamara III**

Projects throughout the northeast including reconstruction of Massachusetts Avenue over the Charles River in Boston & Cambridge; numerous contracts on Boston’s Central Artery Tunnel Project including the \$320M Bird Island Flats tunnel section of I-90 thru Logan Airport; the \$420M Fort point Channel I-90 crossing, which was the first concrete Immersed Tube Tunnel Project built in North America, and the first Segmental Viaduct in MA constructing I-93 over I-90. Other notable projects included reconstruction of Nantucket Island Historic District, the Reconstruction of the Long Island Expressway from the Midtown Tunnel to the

*(Continued on page 2)*

# President McNamara

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Grand Central Parkway in Queens and the capping of the Fountain Avenue Landfill in Brooklyn.

John's dedication to the construction industry extends to his involvement in groups that support heavy construction. He has been an active member of The Moles since induction in 1995, where he has served as a trustee, secretary, and member of the Executive Committee. He also serves as a board member of the Moles Charitable Fund and is its liaison to Northeastern University, where he also serves on the Northeastern University Industrial Advisory Board. He is the past Chairman and Board Member of the Construction Industries of Massachusetts (CIM), a past Board Member of the American

Road and Transportation Builders Association (ATRBA) as well as past Executive Committee member of the General Contractors Association of New York. He is also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Boston Society of Civil Engineers (BSCE), and the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME).

John and his wife Cathy celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary this May, reside in Scituate, MA, where they enjoy spending time with their four children and three grandchildren. John is a passionate saltwater angler and enjoys fishing and boating with his family and friends on Cape Cod in the summer and wintering in Marathon in the Florida Keys.

## 2024-2025 Officers, Trustees & Committees

### The Executive Committee:

<b>John F. McNamara III</b>	President
<b>Michael D'Annunzio</b>	First Vice President
<b>John O'Keefe</b>	2nd Vice President
<b>Thomas J. Groark</b>	Treasurer
<b>Michael Ryan</b>	Secretary
<b>Vincent A. Sambrato</b>	Sergeant-At-Arms
<b>Gerard Brady</b>	Counsel

### Trustees/Standing Committee Chairs:

<b>Jack Callahan</b>	Finance
<b>Nancy Vliet Cucco</b>	Program
<b>Terrence Flynn</b>	Education
<b>Leon "Lonnie" Jacobs</b>	Publicity
<b>Charlie Montalbano</b>	Membership

### Trustees:

<b>Roly Acosta</b>	<b>Gary Almeraris*</b>
<b>Henry Cheung</b>	<b>Alfonso Daloisio Jr.*</b>
<b>Anthony Del Vescovo</b>	<b>Gregory A. Hill</b>
<b>Anthony J. Mazzo</b>	<b>Francis J. Arland</b>
<b>Paul Schmall*</b>	<b>Michael Viggiano</b>

*\*Past President*

<b>Jesse Ottesen</b>	Chair, Award Committee
<b>Jack Tobin</b>	Vice Chair, Award Comm.

Members of the five standing committees, for this year:

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Charlie Montalbano, Chair	
Bob O'Neill, Vice Chair	
Mark Alexander	Robert Buckley, Jr.
Oswald Calderon	Michael Foley
Robert Goodfellow	James H.J. Hughes III
Pablo A. Lemus	Robert W. Pereira II
Pamela Moran	Matt Swinton

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jack Callahan, Chair
Chase DeRose
Jerry Killian

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Nancy Vliet Cucco, Chair	
Andy Burns, Vice Chair	
Art Alzamora	Gillian Blake
Sergio Couto	John Cubala
Patricia Darnell	Geoff Fairclough
Sitotaw Fantaye	Richard France
Scott Hoffman	Jon Hurt
Walter Kaeck	Paul Madsen
Daniele Nebbia	Dan Peterson
Ed Schluter	Greg Ziegler

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Lonnie Jacobs, Chair	
Michael Chow, Vice Chair	
John Dalton	Malcolm McLaren
Robert Radske	Joseph Sopko
Lucian Spiteri	Joe Vaccaro
Sarah Wilson	

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Terrence Flynn, Chair	
Patrick Rooney, Vice Chair	
<u>New York Subcommittee</u>	<u>New England Subcommittee</u>
Keith Chouinard	Andy Brengola
Jack Donnelly	Les Chernauskas
Jessie Jaime	Kevin Huie
Matt Keefe	Tim McLaughlin
Jessica Miller	Alissa Maxwell Weiss
Gene Sullivan	

### DC-Area Subcommittee

Rebecca Clark
Ray Hashimee
Larry Melton
Jeffrey Taylor
Brian Vella

The Award Committee also includes two Members-At-Large: Christine Keville and Thomas Tuozzolo; Past Moles Presidents and Member Award Recipients.

# The 2024 Annual Awards Dinner

The Moles Annual Awards Dinner is one of the organization's most revered traditions. The process of selecting the Recipients of the Member and Non Member Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Construction begins in June of each year, when the Award Committee holds its first of three meetings. The culmination of their dedicated and diligent work is reflected in the caliber of the Award Recipients. This year, Gary Almeraris (Member) and James Maxwell (Non-Member) were recognized at the well attended, black tie annual Awards Dinner held at the New York Hilton Midtown on February 8, 2024. Principal Speaker Dave Raymond rallied guests with his infectious, can-do philosophy.

Moles Member Alissa Maxwell Weiss had the unique and very special honor to present the Non-Member Award to her father, James C. Maxwell, Chairman of the Board of the family-owned Hub Foundation Co., Inc. based in Massachusetts. Three generations of Maxwells were present to celebrate Jim's achievement. (see bottom, left photo). Jeffrey Maxwell read his father Jim's acceptance speech, wherein Jim thanked among others, his wife Mary, for being an equal partner in their success.

Michael Viggiano (at right, with Gary Almeraris) presented Gary with his Member Award scroll. In his speech, Gary humbly accepted the recognition and accolades of those seated in the ballroom, thanking his mentors, Moles Members Tom Peyton and Claes Bjork (see middle photo at right). Gary encouraged everyone to mentor, citing its vital role in engaging students to enter the industry, forging successful teamwork on site and optimizing industry standards.

The dais was filled with industry representatives. Seen below is one-half of the traditional "V" shaped dais. From left, Dave Raymond; Alissa Maxwell Weiss; Jeffrey Maxwell; Jesse Ottesen; Shea DeLutis; Michael D'Annunzio; Michael McKenna and Award Committee Chair John O'Keefe.

The 2025 Awards Dinner will be held on January 8, 2025 at the New York Marriott Marquis. See website for link to hotel reservations!



# May 2, 2024 Members Dinner

The Moles held its annual May Members Dinner and Annual Business Meeting at the New York Marriott Marquis. The new venue exceeded expectations; The Moles may very well have found its new “home” for its bi-annual Spring and Fall dinners and the Annual Awards Dinner! Fifty-two New Members were invited as guests to both the dinner and an Orientation Luncheon that had new members mingling with their sponsors, supporters and Executive Committee members, enhancing the welcome they received during dinner. We thank guest speaker, Mark Steffen, (pictured *below, top left* with Program Chair Nancy Vliet Cucco) for providing an informative technical lecture on E-J Electric’s CS-084 – Traction Power Package at ESA.

An honored tradition, incoming President John McNamara thanked outgoing President Al Daloisio for his time, effort and wisdom at the helm of The Moles (*photo top right*). Al’s generous support of Students Days, the Moles Charitable Fund and its predecessor Scholarship Fund, has spanned decades.

Terry Flynn was also recognized for his years of service and volunteerism to The Moles as the 2024 Recipient of the *Ralph Atwater Service Award*. After years of volunteering his time at Students Days, Terry became a member of the Education Committee in 2016, becoming its Chair in 2022. During his tenure, Terry has not only helped secure mega projects for staging New York-area Students Days, but has increased both the number and locations of annual Students Days to its current level of three in New England, NY/NJ and DC Areas. Terry also serves as a Trustee-at-Large on the Moles Charitable Fund Board.

Ten lucky members were chosen by lottery to receive the annual McAlinden Scholarship, their child or grandchild receiving a \$2,000 Scholarship to be applied toward their college education. The Scholarship is named for Joseph McAlinden, who upon his death in 1992, bequeathed The Moles \$100,000 toward a scholarship fund. While not the Powerball, the odds of winning are greater!



# Welcome New Members!

The “Class of 2024” may very well be the largest group of new members inducted into The Moles! Their induction at the May 2, 2024 Members Dinner and Annual Business Meeting marked the milestone of passing over 2,500 members since The Moles’ humble beginnings in 1937! Please join us in welcoming the following:

Daniel N. Adams  
Robert L. Baccala  
M. Rizwan Baig  
Amy Benbrook  
Scott Blair  
William E Bodnar Jr.  
Lek Boonpektrakul  
Michael A. Campana  
Michael A. Capasso  
Wayne P. Capolupo  
Dong Chang  
Frank Corallo  
Bradley A. Crenshaw  
Patrick J. Cumiskey  
Chris Dawson  
Thomas J. Day  
Anthony M. DeVito  
Neal W. DeWitte  
Kerry P. Donovan  
Steffen Dubé  
David T. Earp  
Phillip Eng  
Alex Ferrara  
Vojtech Gall  
Jared M. Green  
Taylor F. Grossenbacher  
Paul J. Headland

Delve Underground  
Richard E. Pierson Construction Co., Inc.  
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey  
CohnReznick, LLP  
Engineering News Record  
Kiewit Infrastructure Co.  
Skanska USA Civil  
Skanska USA Civil  
C.A.C Industries, Inc.  
SPS New England  
Tutor Perini Civil East  
Walsh Construction  
Richard Goettle, Inc.  
The Walsh Group  
TC Electric  
Skanska USA Civil  
Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers  
Perfetto Contracting Co. Inc.  
Amtrak  
Herrenknecht Tunnelling Systems USA  
Walker Diving Underwater Construction  
Mass. Bay Transportation Authority  
H.O. Penn Machinery Company, Inc.  
Gall Zeidler Consultants  
Langan Engineering  
The Middlesex Corporation  
Aldea Services, Inc.

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# The Class of 2024

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Brian J. Hegarty  
Alaeden Jelaty  
David Johanson  
Gerald "Jerry" T. Keenan  
Gary J.E. Kramer  
Peter Maglicic  
Stephen H. Markowski  
Robert Marlow  
Laura K. Mason  
Peter V. Merullo  
Kevin B. O'Neill Jr.  
Gary J. Orlando  
Michael Ostlund  
Anil Parikh  
Dominic Parisi  
Ciro A. Poccia  
Victor S. Romero  
Mark F. Shamp  
Michael A. Socci  
David P. Sposito  
David Summa  
Scott J. Tankel  
Jeffrey Twidwell Jr.  
David R. Warner  
Mark W. White

Gannett Fleming  
Skanska USA Civil  
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company, LLC  
Alliance for Action  
Hatch  
Kiewit Infrastructure Co.  
Tutor Perini Corp.  
Skanska USA Civil  
Amtrak  
Semper Diving & Marine  
Bay Crane Companies  
Barletta Heavy Division, Inc.  
Kiewit Foundations  
AECOM  
PJS Group  
Ecco III Enterprises, Inc.  
Delve Underground  
Barletta Heavy Division, Inc.  
MAS Building & Bridge, Inc.  
Posillico Civil, Inc.  
J-Track, LLC  
J. D'Annunzio & Sons, Inc.  
Walsh Construction Co.  
Buckley & Company, Inc.  
D. W. White Construction



# Recognizing our 40- & 50-Year Members

The Moles recognize the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the following members for achieving Life Status! While invited to the May Dinner to receive their certificates, none of this year's members celebrating their Forty (Life) and Fifty year anniversaries were able to attend the dinner. Fortunately, a few of them provided an update on their whereabouts:

**J. Edward Jacobsen** received his BSCE from University of Wisconsin in 1960 and started out in construction before making a career move to the drilled shaft foundation industry. Ed started at Caisson Corp before moving to Case Foundation Co., where he stayed for the remainder of his 44-year career. Ed moved up the executive ranks as he worked on specialty foundation projects across the US and on offshore projects, such as the Wastewater Ocean Outfall near San Diego and an oil well BOP silo in the Beaufort Sea, and launched the Case Slurry Wall Division completing projects in major US cities. Ed now enjoys foreign travel, outdoor sports and spending time with wife Sue and their family.

**Harold V. McKittrick** shared that for the last twenty years, he has primarily served as a DRB member and chair on transit projects in Boston, NYC, DC and Dallas, as well as heavy civil projects in several states across the country. He regretted not being able to attend the dinner, as he was sure he "would have seen many of my colleagues from those projects and would have relished renewing acquaintances".

**We trust that the following additional members of the Class of '84 are well and enjoying retirement. A look back to when they were inducted:**

**Anthony S. Caserta** – COO of Singstad, Kehart, November & Hurka, a consulting engineering firm based in NYC. Tony's expertise was design and CM of car and railroad tunnels.

**Joseph F. Fox** – VP and General Construction Manager for The Conduit & Foundation Corp. focused on tunnels, foundations and dams among other heavy construction projects.

**Joseph Lovece, Jr.** – President of North Star Contracting Corp

in New Rochelle, NY, Joe got his early career start as a journeyman electrician.

**Peter J. Nicholson** – President of Nicholson Construction Company, a foundation specialty firm. At the time, Peter has already developed new methods for installing high capacity rock and soil anchors and the use of micro piles for earth retaining structures.

**Jan E. Snickars** – VP and Manager of Peter Kiewit Sons' Company, Eastern Marine District. Jan was in charge of all of Kiewit's marine work in the Great Lakes and East Coast.

**William M. Sweetser** – As President of Burns and Roe Construction Group, William oversaw the company's construction activities in the power, industrial and aerospace industries.

## 50 YEARS & COUNTING!

**Richard E. Fitzner** lamented that a recent bout of vertigo prevented him from traveling, but shared that he recently celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on Easter, with his two daughters and son. Richard appreciated the Face Time calls from his five grandchildren, three great grandchildren and two great, great grandchildren making it a very special day in his life. Richard wishes everyone a great year ahead.

**Francis P. Di Menna, Jr.** let us know that since his retirement from the GCA-NY in 2014, he is enjoying life in Sarasota, FL where he golfs, reads, entertains his family and is currently awaiting his fifth grandchild. Frank shared, "to all The Moles who came before me, I am grateful to have had the chance to have learned and worked with these esteemed men. To all The Moles that succeed me, I wish the men and women of today's industry a lifetime of success.

Also from the Class of 1974, **Francis J. Mc Carthy** is a hard man to locate! Prior to retiring, Frank was a long-time Manager of National Construction Sales with Hercules Powder.

## Another Successful St. Patrick's Day "FUNdraiser"

Marking the fifth annual **St. Patrick's Day Luncheon**, a dedicated crowd of repeat guests and newcomers alike joined in the decidedly Irish festivities held at Club 101 in New York City. Co-hosted by the General Contractors Association of New York and The Moles, the event raised \$22,600 for the Moles Charitable Fund's Michael McHugh Scholarship benefitting Manhattan College! Thank you to Mike McKenna for organizing this event!

The upcoming **Sporting Clays Charity Shoot** on June 14th at Pawling Mountain Club in NY is expected to raise a significant amount for the Moles Charitable Fund. The Program Committee hopes the Shoot will become a premier fundraiser for the MCF! Follow up story to appear in the August edition!



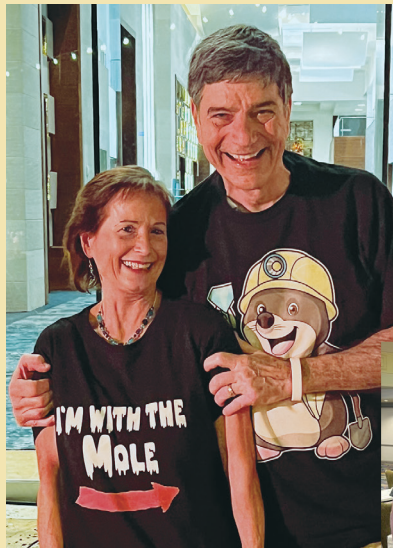
# Winter Meeting in Puerto Rico

Members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie at this year's Winter Meeting! Returning to the El Conquistador Resort in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, the long weekend was a perfect blend of work-related, technical presentations and events designed for attendees to enjoy one another's company. New Member David Sposito of Posillico and Railroad Construction's Pablo Lemus and Tierney Griffin (*at right*) gave a very informative lecture on the extensive upgrades to Passaic Valley (NJ) Sewage Authority Resiliency/Facility. Note the attention to detail on the background screen!

Rob Buckley, Jr. engagingly spoke of Buckley & Co.'s successful completion of the I-95 Bridge emergency deck repairs in Philadelphia, PA, required following a fatal truck collision that caused the bridge's collapse. Bob described the solution that he quickly sketched out, his "Philly Special", in the early hours immediately following and the consequent round-the-clock work to reopen the bridge within two weeks. That, coupled with balancing the media attention, the bereaved family's needs and the interests of state and federal agencies made for an extremely intense work environment. We thank all of the Speakers for sharing their experiences, insights and knowledge.

The weather fully co-operated for the enjoyment of golf, swimming and outdoor evening events. Beginning with the President's "Icebreaker" cocktail party on Thursday; Friday evening's pig roast and lively dance crowd; Saturday's friendly beach volleyball game on Palomino Island through Saturday's sunset catamaran sail, the weekend was perfect!

Several potential locations are currently being vetted to finalize the plans for the 2025 Winter Meeting. Details will follow, check The Moles' website!







# Remembered for their Contributions (con't. from previous page)

**John “Jack” F. Daly, 90**, passed away on January 26, 2024. Jack was the CEO of Koch Skanska. He built a reputation and legacy during his 50 year career that involved building and renovating major bridges and iconic structures, including the World Trade Center. Jack had a passion for boats and antique cars that he pursued in retirement. Predeceased by his wife of 60 sixty years, Jack leaves behind his seven children and their families.



of the same name in 1968. His firm consulted on many Army Corp of Engineers projects nationwide. In 1976, Bill co-founded Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) as a vehicle for engineers and industry-related players to share their expertise. DFI became a global organization with Bill at the helm for several years. In 2000, Bill won DFI’s *Distinguished Service Award*.

**Charles H. Thornton, 83**, passed away on December 12, 2023. A Manhattan College alumnus (’61), Charles was a co-founder of Thornton Tomasetti, a small NY engineering firm that grew into an internationally recognized organization with a reputation for its innovative approach to challenging projects including the Petronas Towers in Malaysia and Tapei 101 in Taiwan. Charlie’s impact will continue for generations due to his creation of the ACE Mentor Program in 1994, which introduced high school students to architecture, construction, and engineering careers. Charlie was subsequently recognized for this work by President Obama in 2011. Charlie’s quote, “Engineering, at its core, is about shaping the future” will continue to resonate.

**William F. Loftus, 90**, a Mole for 38 years, passed away on March 20, 2024. Born and raised in Brooklyn, Bill received his BSCE from Manhattan College and founded his engineering firm

## Upcoming Moles Events:

All Moles events are posted on [www.themoles.net](http://www.themoles.net). Members should log in to access the complete Moles calendar , including members-only and public events and committee meetings, found on the Members’ home page.

**Friday, June 14th:** The inaugural Sportsmen for Charity’s Sporting Clays Charity Shoot benefitting the Moles Charitable Fund.

**Tuesday, August 20th:** Annual Clambake at the New York Athletic Club, Travers Island, Pelham NY. Golf at Pelham Golf Course. Tickets for the Clambake and Golf will be available on The Moles website in early to mid-June!

**Thursday, November 7th:** Fall Members Dinner at the New York Marriott Marquis. Register online beginning in September. Link for hotel reservations at the Marriott is available on The Moles website’s event page—click on event photo for the link.

**Wednesday, January 8, 2025: Anual Awards Dinner** at the New York Marriott Marquis. Note the earlier Date! Online registration will open on The Moles website in mid- to late-October. Link for hotel reservations at the Marriott is already available on the website’s event page—click on event photo for the link.

### Upcoming Moles Students Days (MSD) happening this Fall!

Friday, Sept. 27: New England MSD: MassDot/Barletta’s I495/I90 Improvements Project

Friday, Oct. 18: NJ MSD at NJ Transit’s Portal North Bridge in Kearny, NJ

Friday, Nov. 1: DC MSD at MDDOT’s Purple Line in College Park, MD

Members interested in volunteering at MSD should email Heidi Taber at [htaber@themoles.net](mailto:htaber@themoles.net)

## One Fast Mole!

James Myers (*at right*) recently competed in the Boston Marathon with impressive results! Jim’s path to the Boston Marathon began less than six months prior when he qualified at another marathon. From 33,000 applicants received, the Boston Marathon whittled that number down to 22,000 runners and Jim made the cut! The Boston Marathon is run on Patriots Day, which is always the third Monday in April. Despite the warm temperatures, everything came together for Jim; he ran the 26.2 miles in 2:58:41, finishing in the top 10% of all finishers. Jim credited his strong finish in the challenging course to listening to advice from seasoned runners who have run it before. Not quitting his day job, Jim is a Project Executive at Keller NA. Jim became a Mole in 2023, but has been a regular volunteer at Students Days for the past several years.



*Holing Through* is published by The Moles three times a year. E-mail newsworthy updates to Executive Director and Editor David E. Puza at [dpuza@themoles.net](mailto:dpuza@themoles.net). Office telephone: (201) 930-1923 Website: [www.themoles.net](http://www.themoles.net)

# Student Outreach Expands: Moles Go Beyond Students Days

The 2nd annual Construction Industries of Massachusetts-Labor Relations Division (CIM-LRD) Student Competition was recently held at Tufts University. Co-founded by Mole John Roma, the competition tasked students to design, construct, price, and schedule a new MBTA Blue Line Station at Government Center, Boston, as envisioned by Prof Jim Lambrechts of Wentworth Institute. A total of \$34,000 in prize money was distributed to the five participating schools with Tufts winning first prize; UConn in 2nd place; Norwich Univ taking 3rd and Honorable Mention going to UMass-Lowell and Springfield Technical Community College (STCC). Two of the four judges were Moles members: Aaron Lewis, SGH and Andy Brengola, Underpinning & Foundation Skanska. New Mole Tom Day, while at Barletta, was given the same project parameters to conduct a professional analysis that was then presented to the students at the conclusion of their presentations. Students gained a sense of the collaborative nature of design/build projects.



All five schools also attended the last New England Moles Students Day (“NE MSD”); this year, twenty-seven schools have been invited to NE MSD on September 27th in Westborough, MA. Members interested in setting up a table for student internship/career opportunities during lunch should contact Heidi Taber at [htaber@themoles.net](mailto:htaber@themoles.net). The Education Committee is actively working to expand on this opportunity at all three Students Days.

John Roma and Dave Puza (STCC ‘72) attended STCC’s Student Recognition Ceremony on May 17<sup>th</sup>, where the Civil Engineering Technology program students, mentored by Bill Murphy of J.F.White (*seen above*), were recognized for their accomplishment. Department Chair Cynthia DeSeiller has been instrumental in developing the CET program and expanding STCC students’ exposure to careers in heavy civil construction, including attending NE MSD in October 2023 and getting students involved in the CIM competitions. Her efforts have paid off; STCC students may now transfer to either Western New England College or Old Dominion in VA to pursue Engineering and Construction Management BS degrees.

Executive Director Dave Puza would like to build on CIM’s concept, using its competition-style framework to offer similar competitions as a way to expand Moles’ outreach to vocational/community college students and promote careers in the industry to meet the growing need for tradesmen and industry-related degrees. Contact Dave to help kickstart this effort.

## Tri-State Engineering Expo Recap

The brainchild of Malcolm McLaren, the Expo is in its 20th year and has grown from a local, Hudson County, NY-centric expo to a tri-state event, attended by nearly 2,000 middle and high school students and their families from NY, NJ and CT. Held annually in April, several Moles and their firms support the initiative that showcases a variety of engineering majors and careers with interactive booths representing companies and higher education institutions. It is widely recognized that reaching students at the pre-college stage is effective in encouraging STEM-related careers and will benefit the heavy construction industry. The Moles Publicity Committee, chaired by Lonnie Jacobs who has been attending the Expo for years, will be assisting Mal and Tom Groark in further promoting the Expo and welcomes Moles Members to get involved!

## NYU Tours NYCDEP Shafts

Students from NYU’s Civil and Urban Engineering department recently toured Walsh Construction’s NYCDEP water tunnel shaft project in Queens, NY. Fielding a request made by a Teaching Assistant, Education Committee Vice Chair Pat Rooney hosted the twenty students and faculty on March 28th at Walsh’s onsite trailer for a project orientation before touring shafts 17B-1 and 18B-1. Small tours are a fantastic way to engage students and further promote careers in the industry. We thank Mole Anthony Del Vescovo at Walsh and Jesse Sylvestri and his team at NYCDEP for their assistance!



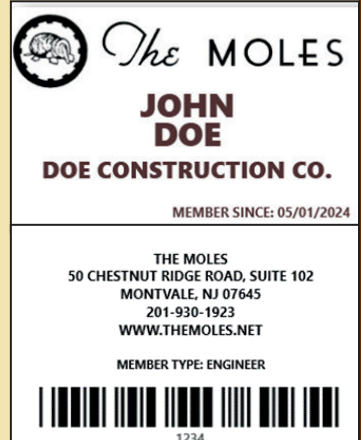
# Keeping Members in the “Know”

The Moles administrative office is continually trying to keep pace with industry standards and the needs of our members. Most recently, in December of 2023, we launched a new version of The Mole's website for all to enjoy and utilize while staying in touch with the members, events, and the latest industry news.

During the construction of the revised website, it was noted that Moles members needed more options to make their day-to-day use of the website more productive and efficient. To assist with this initiative, we have developed a Moles membership card. It is a permanent card to be used as a name tag at Moles events yet provides you with all the necessary information you need to contact the Moles office and access the website. The front of the card (*top right*) identifies the Moles organization, your name, and your company. In the bottom right-hand corner, it states your membership since the date you joined. The back of the card has the Moles' address, office phone number, website address ([www.themoles.net](http://www.themoles.net)), your membership type, and most importantly your member ID number (located under the bar code). Currently, the bar code has no function, but our intent is to utilize it in the future. You will be advised when this feature is activated and for what purpose.

The membership cards were launched at the May Members Dinner to overall approval! Ever inquisitive, members quickly asked, “What if I lose the membership card or what if I change companies?” If you change companies, The Moles will provide you with a new ID card. It is your responsibility to contact the office and notify us of this change. If you lose this card, there will be a \$25 replacement fee for administrative expenses.

Please remember to bring this card with you to all Moles events/meetings that you attend, as this will function as your name tag. The plastic name tag holders for this card will be provided at all events/meetings. Seen at right, First Vice President, Mike D’Annunzio, “models” the new card worn as a name tag. Members who did not attend the May Dinner were mailed their membership card.



## The Moles Website: [www.themoles.net](http://www.themoles.net)

Thank you for your continued patience as we make adjustments to improve the capabilities of The Moles' new website. The goal is to maximize its interactive features for accounting and administrative purposes allowing members to fully utilize the website!

Here are a few highlights of the Members-only section, accessible once logged in:

**Member's Home Page:** Announcements and a complete calendar of both public and members-only events and committee meetings. Updated event details, ticket purchasing and hotel reservation links can be accessed by clicking on the event's photo. There is a Members Calendar button on the left side where members can view their reservations in calendar format. Quick links to major events and navigating to public tabs can be found here as well.

Watch the new “We are The Moles” video being distributed to college students!

Under the **Member Roster** Tab: Look up individual member's contact information, search by company or download the most recent printed version of the directory.

Under the **Forms** Tab: a number of forms are available including the Form 1 - Sponsor a Candidate for Membership; an online form to post a company internship (also found under the Internship Portal Tab) that will appear under the public Student Section Tab and be provided to students attending Students Days and Volunteer opportunity forms.

Under the **My Account** Tab: members can update their contact information; view/print/pay for paid and unpaid transactions including event reservations and dues. Please note that the monthly statements emailed to members and available on the website are a stagnant snapshot of a member's account; activity (payments, registering for events) made after the last day of the particular month do not appear.

Another new feature being rolled out is allowing a member's Administrative Assistant to have full access to a member's account including the My Account Tab and the calendar to register for events and meetings using *their own* login credentials. Registering for events this way will allow them the same members-only option to “Member Charge” tickets; this is particularly helpful for companies that prefer to mail a check to the office. Non-members (Guests) registering for an event are required to pay with a credit card. Admins will also receive copies of emails sent to the member. Members may request their admins be provided their own login credentials to access their account by emailing Heidi Taber at [htaber@themoles.net](mailto:htaber@themoles.net).

We will continue to work with the membership to keep Moles' information easily accessible. Members should make sure that emails with the “@themoles.net” extension are marked as a safe sender; many continue to be blocked or sent to junk/spam folders.