

## NEWS BULLETIN

AN ASSOCIATION OF INDIVIDUALS



## OF THE MOLES

ENGAGED IN HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

# HOLING

# THROUGH

APRIL, 2008

## ALFRED H. BRAND ELECTED PRESIDENT of THE MOLES

ALFRED H. BRAND, Partner of Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, has been elected to serve as President of The Moles for the year 2008/2009. He will receive the gavel from retiring President, Salvatore Mancini, at the Annual Business Meeting and Dinner to be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, at The New York Hilton Hotel.

Other officers elected are: ROBERT E. ALGER, The Lane Construction Corporation, First Vice President; KIRK R. SAMUELSON, Peter Kiewit Sons, Inc., Second Vice President; JOSEPH F. MALANDRO, E. E. Cruz & Company, Inc., Treasurer; WILLIAM V. MC GUINNESS III, Skanska USA Civil, Inc., Secretary; and WALTER J. REICHERT, Granite Construction Northeast, Inc., Sergeant-at-Arms.



ALFRED H. BRAND

Trustees elected for three-year terms are: RICHARD D. MAC DONALD, Weeks Marine, Inc.; DAVID M. ONEGLIA, O & G Industries, Inc., JOHN R. ROMA, Raito, Inc., and ANDREW D. WALKER, Nicholson Construction Company.

ALFRED H. BRAND was born in Queens, New York and attended Bishop Loughlin High School. After earning his Civil Engineering Degree from Cooper Union and his Master's Degree in Soil Mechanics at Cornell University, he went to work as a geotechnical engineer for Mueser Rutledge Wentworth & Johnston (now known as Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers). The firm has a long history of involvement in The Moles. Members of the firm and its predecessor firms, who distinguished themselves in the Moles, include the following: Carlton S. Proctor, who presented the Non Member Award to Herbert Hoover in 1950 and who received the Member Award in 1963; William H. Mueser, who received the Member Award in 1975; Salvatore De Simone, who served as President of the Moles in 1981; James P. Gould, who received the Member award in 1992; Elmer Richards, who served as President of The Moles in 1993 and was the Member Award Recipient in 1998; and George J. Tamaro, who served as President of the Moles in 2001 and received the Member Award in 2003.

It is obvious that Al Brand made a wise choice when he went to work for Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers. Starting as a young engineer, he quickly rose in the ranks. From 1970 to 1975, he supervised the firm's soil laboratory and from 1976 to 1988 he supervised the geotechnical staff. He became an Associate in 1976 and a Partner in 1988. During his career at Mueser Rutledge, he has directed the firm's work on a wide variety of foundation, heavy construction and marine projects, including tunnels, earth fill structures, building foundations, transportation structures, bulkheads, wharves, piers and cellular cofferdams.

Among the projects he has directly supervised are the following: New Yankee Stadium; Battery Park City; the Second Avenue Subway and the MesseTurn, Frankfurt, Germany. He has been involved in other overseas projects in Panama, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

(continued on Page 2)

## **ALFRED H. BRAND**

*(continued from page 1)*

In addition to The Moles, Al is a member of a number of professional organizations, including the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor Society and The Beavers. He has authored or co-authored numerous papers for ASCE, ACI and DFI conferences and articles for Civil Engineering magazine. He has presented lectures to the ASCE Metropolitan Section and to classes at Polytechnic University and The Cooper Union. He holds professional engineering licenses in eight states.

Since becoming a member in 1989, Al has been very active in Moles activities, having served on several committees and as Treasurer from 2001 to 2004.

Al and his wife, Kathy, reside in Kew Gardens, Queens and have four children, Alf, Amanda, Audrey and Adrienne and on granddaughter, Ava. He is active on the governing boards of the Kew Gardens Civic Association and the Forest Hills Mens Club. His hobby has been woodworking, but the press of business has not allowed him much time to devote to this activity. Al and Kathy do get away on weekends to their lakeside retreat at Candlewood

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

***PLEASE DON'T GET LOST  
IN THE SHUFFLE.  
NOTIFY THE MOLES  
OFFICE SO WE KNOW  
WHERE YOU ARE.***

## **20 New Members Elected**

Congratulations and welcome to our new Moles members, elected to membership at the Executive Committee's April 1st meeting.

Richard T. Anderson  
New York Building Congress  
Francis J. Arland  
Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engr.  
Paul A. Beljan  
Peter Kiewit Sons Co.  
Robert J. Berry  
Jay Cashman, Inc.  
Michael M. Cote  
The Lane Construction Corp.  
John T. Cooney, Jr.  
Tilcon New York, Inc.  
William G. Duguay  
J.D. Abrams, L.P.  
Raymond Gizzi  
ECCO III Enterprises, Inc.  
Minhaj A. Kirmani  
Weidlinger Associates, Inc.  
Richard B. Manning  
D'Annunzio & Sons, Inc.  
James H. Martinez  
Malcolm Pirmie, Inc.  
Jorge Martinez  
Bechtel Corporation  
Joseph V. McIlhinney, Jr.  
Granite Construction Northeast  
Michael F. McKenna  
Lewis & McKenna  
Edward Nyland  
George Harms Construction Co.  
Jim W. Rosteck  
J.F. Shea Construction, Inc.  
Wayne Thomas  
Kiewit Constructors, Inc.  
Ronald Treveloni  
Trevcon Construction Co., Inc.  
Paul F. Wagner  
Edwards and Kelcey, Inc.  
John D. Wise  
Nicholson Construction Company

The new members will be welcomed into The Moles at the May 7th Business Meeting and the July issue of Holing Through will contain a brief profile of each new member.

**Congratulations and welcome to  
The Moles.**

## **2008 Moles Student's Day**

The Moles Annual Student's Day took place on Friday, April 4th. The weather did not look too promising that morning with drizzle and the forecast for continuing rain, as students, faculty members and Moles members and helpers assembled on the 42nd Floor of 7 World Trade Center.

Students started arriving at 8 A.M. and enjoyed coffee and donuts before the kickoff of the program at 9 A.M. After welcoming remarks by Education Committee Chairman Mike Mc Hugh and Moles President Sal Mancini, Steve Plate, Port Authority Director of Construction of the World Trade Center site, gave an excellent overview of the work currently underway and the planned future construction.

Students then were broken up into 10 groups and with their hard hats, vests and protective glasses, were escorted around the World Trade Center site and the adjacent Dey Street Subway Connector, being constructed by Skanska. By this time the precipitation had ended and the weather, although not sunny, was not wet. There were 10 stations on the two sites and at each station there was a Moles member or helper, who with the aid of drawings on a board, explained what was to be seen at the particular site.

The site tour lasted about three hours and then everyone returned to 7 World Trade Center for lunch. After that, the students and faculty, numbering over 400, left with their hard hats as a souvenir and a memory of a day that will be with them for the rest of their lives. For most of the civil engineering students, this was the first close-up encounter with a construction project.

Thanks to our members for donating the hard hats and thanks to all who assisted and made the day possible.

**See related article on Page 7.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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MAY BUSINESS  
MEETING AND  
DINNER  
MAY 7, 2008  
NEW YORK  
HILTON HOTEL

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CLAMBAKE  
AUGUST 5, 2008  
TRAVERS ISLAND

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NOVEMBER  
MEMBERS  
DINNER  
NOVEMBER 5,  
2008  
NEW YORK  
HILTON HOTEL

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2009 AWARD  
DINNER  
JANUARY 28,  
2009  
NEW YORK  
HILTON HOTEL

## UPDATE ON THE MOLES SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The year 2007 showed a marked increase in contributions to The Moles Scholarship Fund, with total contributions amounting to \$681,000.00 (the most contributed in any previous year was \$224,000.00). This accomplishment is attributed to Ed Cruz and his Fundraising Committee (Ray Oneglia, George Tamaro and Rich Weeks). During 2007, \$100,000.00 contributions were received from Ed Cruz and Dick Weeks (his second such contribution).

Also, since our last report, two additional companies have pledged to contribute \$100,000.00: Kiewit Constructors and J.F. White Contracting Company; and Urban Foundation/Engineering has pledged to contribute \$50,000.00.

As of December 31, 2007, The Moles Scholarship Fund had a value of \$3,229,000.00 and the Moles Scholarship Fund at Manhattan College had a value of \$124,000.00.

At its meeting on April 1, 2008, the Moles Scholarship Advisory Committee voted to distribute scholarships in the amount of \$132,000.00 to students studying civil engineering at the various colleges and universities, which participate in The Moles Education Committee programs. The Scholarship Fund Raising Committee also met on April 1st to plan and intensify its fund raising efforts for 2008, and beyond.

The Moles and its members can be proud of its support of civil engineering students who will be future leaders of our industry.

***Let's All Support The Moles Scholarship Fund***

## 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 Website: [www.themoles.info](http://www.themoles.info) Executive Director and Editor of Holing Through: Gerard J. Carty, P.E.

## REST IN PEACE

A tragic automobile accident in Pasco, Florida on Christmas Day 2007, took the life of **GERARD O. BASSI**, Vice President and Chief Engineer of Perini Corporation. His wife also succumbed due to the accident, a few days later. Gerry, a civil engineering graduate of Polytechnic University, was 51 at the time of his death.

The 1999 Award Dinner Principal Speaker and Moles Honorary member, **WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR.**, died on February 27, 2008 at the age of 82. Mr. Buckley's address to The Moles, *Forgiving the Unforgivable*, was included by him in his *LET US TALK OF MANY THINGS*, published in 2000.

**DONALD G. CANALE** died on February 24, 2008 at the age of 91. Don spent his career with Slattery Contracting Company, where he served as Vice President and General Construction Superintendent.

**ROBERT J. JENNY** died after a brief illness on February 23, 2008 at the age of 76. Bob, a civil engineering graduate of NJIT, was founder and CEO of Jenny Engineering Corporation, a prominent firm in the design and construction of tunnels and underground structures.

**RALPH B. PECK** died on February 18, 2008, at the age of 95. Ralph was the recipient of The Moles Non Member Award in 1973. He followed in the steps of Karl Terzaghi and Arthur Cassagrande. In addition to serving as a Professor of geotechnical and foundation engineering at the University of Illinois, he was a practicing engineer and was involved in many major underground projects throughout the U.S and around the world. He was one of the "giants" of foundation engineering.

Another industry "giant", **ROBERT A. POND**, died suddenly on February 18, 2008, at the age of 66. Bob spent most of his career with tunneling contractor, Frontier Kemper Constructors, Inc., serving for many years as Executive Vice President. His long time friend, Jack Burke, wrote, *"in all the years I have known and worked with Bob, I never heard him disparage anyone, not offer to help someone who asked his advice or needed assistance. He took his personal time to shepherd young miners, engineers and even rock driller peddlers on the value of the underground industry he was so proud of and show them the merits of the profession."*

The 1996 Moles Non Member Recipient, **RICHARD C. SOLARI**, former Chairman and CEO of Granite Construction Company, died on January 25, 2008 at the age of 82. Dick's wife, Mary, said at the time of his death, *"Dick and I have fairly simple tastes and our tastes did not change with his job elevation or success with investments. Luxury was never a desire so if you have a little extra (to give) why not?"* He was truly a very generous man.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

Happy 85th birthday to **ARLINE F. GALLAGHER**. Having been trained by Moles Founder, Ralph Atwater, Arline had an over 30 year career with the Moles, serving as Executive Secretary (Director). Please call the Moles office for her phone number so you may congratulate her personally.

E.E. Cruz announced that **ARTHUR J. BLATTNER** has joined the company as Chief Estimator.

The 2006 Non Member Award Recipient. **CLYDE N. BAKER, JR.**, has been honored by Engineering News Record with their Award of Excellence and by the American Society of Civil Engineers with their OPAL Award for his outstanding achievements in foundation engineering.

**FREDERICK CARDILLO** has joined Grace Industries, Incorporated, Flushing, New York.

Skanska USA Civil announced that **MICHAEL S. COBELLI** has been promoted to Senior Vice President and General Manager for Northeast Operations.

**MARTIN T. CORCORAN** recently took on the position of President of Spearin Preston & Burrows, a Metropolitan New York marine contractor.

After a long tenure as President of Georgia Tech, 2005 Award Dinner Principal Speaker, **G. WAYNE CLOUGH**, will assume the position of President of the Smithsonian Institution. Clough is recognized as an outstanding geotechnical engineer.

Judlau Contracting announced the following promotions: **Jay I. Dier** has been appointed President and **Wesley Bermel** Vice President Estimating and Business Development of the Judlau Company.

**ROBERT S. O'NEILL** has been honored with the American Society of Civil Engineers President's Medal. The medal recognizes the accomplishments of eminent engineers and their contributions to the profession, the Society, or the public.

The American Society of Civil Engineers also honored **J. PATRICK POWERS** with its 2007 Roebling Award in recognition of the many contributions and achievements in his 50 year career in the field of groundwater engineering.

**THE MOLES WEBSITE**  
[www.themoles.info](http://www.themoles.info)

## 40 YEAR MEMBERS

The Moles has not heard much from **JAMES C. ARMITAGE** in recent years. Jim spent his career, along with his father, Edward, also a Moles member, at Armitage & Company, an insurance and bonding company, located in New York City. Jim is a former Treasurer of the Moles and lives in Yonkers, New York.

The mail for **EDWARD L. CAUSEY, JR.** has been returned to the Moles office as being undeliverable. Our records indicate, if living, he would have been 100 years in January of this year. When he became a member of The Moles in 1968, he was Executive Vice President of The Hunkin-Conkey Construction Company (a then prominent heavy construction company), with headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio. Ed had been living in Green Valley, Arizona.

A letter from **MELVIN FEBESH** — *“When I became a member of the Moles, I was employed by Spencer, White & Prentice and worked on various projects across the country. In 1972, I joined Urban Foundation Company and became a partner in the firm. In the last forty years my daily routine has not changed very much. I am still working at urban full time and enjoying every day. I am fortunate that my partners let me take off as much time as I want, so my wife and I travel and spend several weeks during the winter in Florida (including attending The Moles Winter Meeting).”* Mel has hardly ever missed a Moles function and will be at the May Meeting to receive his 40 Year Certificate in person. Mel is a past Secretary of the Moles and Recipient of the 1997 Member Award. Truly, one of The Moles’ finest and most active members!

**EDWARD B. FITZPATRICK, JR.** continues to be a very loyal and active alumnus of the University of Notre Dame. He spent his early career in marine construction with Spearin, Preston & Burrows and Merritt Chapman & Scott before establishing his own company, Edward B. Fitzpatrick, Jr. Construction Corporation. His daughter, Katherine Donohue, also a ND civil engineering graduate, is employed by Granite Construction Northeast. Ed spends his time in Florida in the winter and in Bayville, New York, the remainder of the year.

Upon graduation from Cornell University in 1948, **GERARD F. FOX** embarked on a career with Howard Needles Tammen and Bergdorf (now known as HNTB), becoming one of the country’s outstanding bridge engineers. He continues to live in Garden City and we hope to see him at the May 7th Business Dinner for him to receive his 40 year certificate in person.

No communication from **FRANKLIN N. GROVES** for quite some time now. Franklin’s father, Frank Groves, a Moles member, was an industry giant, having founded and headed S.J. Groves & Sons Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Several Moles members, including George Searle, Rocky Burns and Roger Ludlam, spent considerable parts of their careers with Groves, before moving on to success in other endeavors.

Upon graduation from Yale with an engineering degree, **ALVAN K. GUSTAFSON**, joined Raymond International and went on to spend a 27 year career with the company. He subsequently went to work for FruCon, being involved in overseas work with both companies. He continues to make his home in Houston, Texas.

Had a nice call from **WILLIAM R. HUBBLE**, who said he is enjoying retirement in Meadowville, Virginia. Bill spent his career with Hercules, Inc., selling explosives to the construction industry, retiring as Manager of Construction Sales.

**FRANK R. MC CABE** spent a long career with Caterpillar, retiring in 1991 as Senior Account Executive. Now living in Edwards, Illinois, he writes that he has kept busy since then with various volunteer activities. Currently he is Chairman of the Peoria Liquor Commission, serves as an Election Judge and serves as Vice President of the Catholic Cemetery Board. He also *“enjoys the total frustration of playing golf.”* He goes on to say, *“As an eighty year old I am enjoying reasonably good health with my only prescription being a new one, for high cholesterol.”* Nice to hear that Frank is doing so well and enjoying himself.

**SIDNEY SNIDER** writes, *“Since retiring as Executive Vice President of Hallen Construction Co., my wife, Rita, and I have spent the winter months in Clearwater, Florida, enjoying sunshine, golf, beach and the company of dear and loving friends. It was only a few years ago after a serious illness, that I was forced to give up playing golf, but at 94 years of age, I can say without hesitation, I have had a marvelous run.”*

## Update of 1974 Manual *Better Contracting for Underground Construction*

In recent years, the demand for underground space has increased worldwide, as a growing global economy and population rely on an ever larger infrastructure to meet transportation, water, wastewater, and other needs. Simultaneously, underground construction has become more efficient through engineering advances and technological innovations.

In contrast to the growth and health of the underground construction industry in these areas, contracting practices have stagnated. Standard contract provisions have become increasingly restrictive, which has pushed many national tunneling contractors out of the business—either because of project losses or because their anticipated profits didn't justify the risks—and may be suppressing the development of innovative technologies.

Recognizing these trends, in 2004 the American Underground Construction Association undertook preparation of an update to the 1974 *Better Contracting for Underground Construction* manual, and it has been in development since then.

Under the direction of a steering committee, composed of William W. Edgerton, chairman (Jacobs Associates), Lok W. Home (The Robbins Company), James E. Monsees (Parsons Brinckerhoff), Edward S. Plotkin (independent consultant), Richard E. Sage (Sound Transit), David Hatem (Donovan Hatem LLP), Robert Miller (Allied North American Insurance), and the late Robert A. Pond (Frontier-Kemper Constructors), 12 industry experts have contributed to the new 2008 edition, which offers a comprehensive review of the key aspects of underground construction pertaining to contracting practices.

The new version, entitled *Recommended Contract Practices for Underground Construction*, is intended to provide owner agencies and their engineers with a set of best contracting practices to improve the development of contract documents and the administration of underground construction contracts. Contractors will benefit from the manual by gaining a better understanding of the rationale behind contract provisions. The recommendations made reflect both the contributors' years of industry experience and industry consensus on best practices, as established during conversations and workshops with industry players.

Although organizational change is not easy, an awareness of the uniqueness of underground contracting can help all parties make projects more cost-effective for owners and more profitable for contractors, while contributing to the growth and advancement of the underground industry. The Steering Committee hopes that this manual continues the tradition of promoting fair and practical contracting practices that was embodied in the 1974 report.

The new document is available from the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Inc., (1-800-763-3132) as of June 2008.

### **A RECORD ATTENDANCE AT THE 2008 MOLES WINTER MEETING**

Approximately 50 members, along with spouses, attended The Moles Annual Winter Meeting at The La Playa Beach Resort, in Naples, Florida, from February 27 to March 2, 2008. This was by far the largest turnout ever. First-time attendees were very impressed with the beachside location of the hotel and the town of Naples. Initially the weather was a bit cold, but each day brought warmer conditions.

Business activities included the March Executive Committee meeting; a presentation by Bob Murray, Chief Economist of McGraw Hill, in which he looked into his crystal ball as to the construction outlook for 2008; Hank Adams, of Kiewit Constructors, described a recently completed steel upgrade project on the Verrazano Narrows Bridge.

Social activities included an icebreaker party, a catamaran cruise into the Gulf and a lively dinner dance. Leisure activities, among others, included fishing, golf, swimming in the gulf and shopping. A great time was had by all.

# STUDENTS' DAY

## IN NEW YORK – FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1963

- The Moles will be your hosts and guides as you get first-hand looks at some of today's greatest construction undertakings - - - the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge where they'll be "spinning the cables" of the longest suspension span in the world . . . the new Flushing Meadow Stadium, where portions of the bleachers will be electrically rotated inward from the first- and third-base lines on sunken tracks to convert, almost in minutes, from baseball to football! . . . and the New York World's Fair 1964-65, with its theme, the Unisphere, together with the structures for the Heliport, Bell System, Festival of Gas and 75 other fantastic exhibits which are now in various stages of construction. Eventually, there will be structures for about 250 exhibits which with roads, services and landscaping will involve expenditures of about one billion dollars prior to the opening of the Fair in April, 1964.
- Six busloads — each seating 45 and each with two Moles as mentors — will provide transportation. They'll leave at 10 a.m. from Gate 43 on the long distance platform on the lower level of the Port Authority Terminal, 40th Street and Eighth Avenue. Box lunches will be provided and eaten enroute, and between 5 and 6 p.m., the tour will terminate at the United Engineering Center (just across First Avenue from the United Nations "campus") where at 6 o'clock all hands will have a sit-down dinner.
- No evening meeting, no speeches — just dinner and plenty of chance to talk over the sights of the day. The Moles guides will be there to discuss the jobs visited and answer further questions.
- All the students will be **guests** of The Moles the entire day. "Students' Day" is an activity of the Education Committee of The Moles as part of the organization's continuing program of being of maximum service to those who may find richly rewarding careers in the construction industry.
- Engineering students from the following 20 colleges will participate:

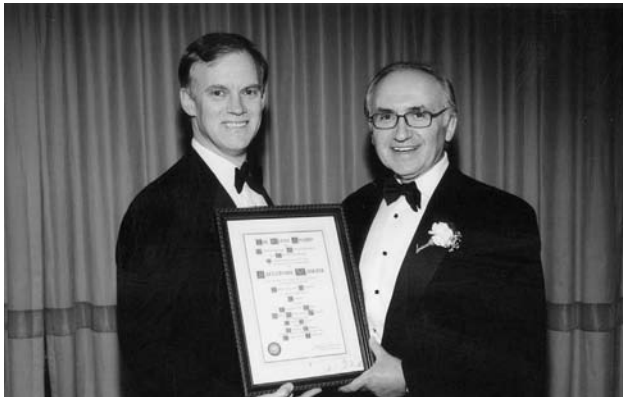
City College of N.Y.	Manhattan	Rutgers
Columbia	Newark College of Engineering	State University (Delhi, N.Y.)
Cooper Union	New York University	State University (Farmingdale)
Cornell	Brooklyn Poly	Stevens Institute
Fairleigh Dickinson	Princeton	Union College
Lafayette	Rensselaer Poly	University of Connecticut
Lehigh		Yale

On Moles Student's Day 45 years ago, civil engineering students from 20 colleges and universities visited three construction projects: the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, Shea Stadium and the New York World's Fair. That was indeed quite an itinerary!

It is interesting to note that 20 schools participated then in the Moles Education Committee program. Today, the same number of schools participate, but there have been a few changes because some of the schools, namely, Fairleigh Dickinson, New York University, Union College and Yale, dropped their civil engineering programs. These schools have been replaced by Bucknell, Hofstra, the U.S. Military Academy and the Coast Guard Academy.

***ANOTHER RECORD TURNOUT AT AWARD DINNER  
GENERAL PETER PACE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER  
MANCINI & BOH HONORED***

Last year's report in *Holing Through* on the Award Dinner noted that the following year's Award Committee would have to work hard to match the success of the 2007 Award Dinner. Well, the 2008 Committee did just that. With former Marine Corps General and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Peter Pace, as the Principal Speaker and Sal Mancini of Skanska and Robert Boh of Boh Brothers (New Orleans, Louisiana) as the Award Recipients, with the venue being the New York Hilton Hotel, a record turnout of over 1850 attendees from all over the country traveled to New York City to be present at this premier dinner of the construction industry.



Presenter Bill McGuinness with Sal Mancini



Presenter Jan Tuchman with Robert Boh



General Peter Pace, USMC (Ret.)



Award Committee Chairman Kirk Samuelson



John Roma, General Pace, John Kolaya and Tom O'Neill



Sal Mancini, General Peter Pace and Robert Boh