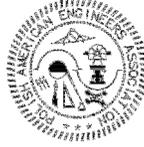


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# POLISH-AMERICAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED



IN 1934

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All members and friends of Polish-American Engineers Association are cordially invited to attend our meeting.

- DATE:** Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- TIME:** Doors Open 7:30 p.m.; Business Meeting begins 8:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Copernicus Center  
Kings Hall  
5216 W. Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois
- SPEAKER:** Brett Sauter, PE, SE  
Ciorba Group, Inc.
- TOPIC:** Declassifying Fracture Critical Members using System Redundancy
- 



## Brett Sauter

Mr. Brett Sauter is the Structural Group Manager for Ciorba Group, Inc. He has over 16 years of experience in the design of bridge rehabilitation and reconstruction projects including designing cast in place, prestressed precast concrete and steel bridges and bridges on curved alignment with complex geometry. He has also performed inspections and designed repairs of major river bridges.

Mr. Sauter received his B.S. degree in civil engineering from Valparaiso University and his M.S. degree in civil engineering from University of Illinois-Chicago. He was the Project Manager for the Fracture Critical Member analysis project.

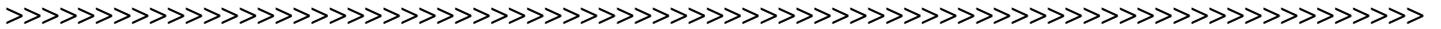
## ABSTRACT

As a consequence of past bridge failures and the aging of existing infrastructures, fracture critical bridges are subject to more stringent inspection requirements. The FHWA has identified new criteria within a recently released memo to classify Fracture Critical bridges using the concept of System Redundancy. Ciorba has performed an investigation on twenty bridges in Illinois with Fracture Critical Members (FCMs). The intent of the study was to identify System Redundant Members (SRM) through structural analysis and to declassify as many of the FCMs as possible which would allow for less frequent inspections of the bridges.

The presentation will detail the analysis criteria required by the FHWA memo, the various categories of FCMs in the twenty bridges, our finite element analysis, and ultimately our results.





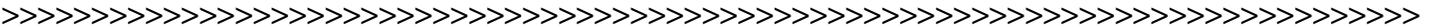


## **PAEA Christmas Party 2016**

PAEA Members, Sympathizers, and guests enjoyed a wonderful evening at Gala Banquets Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. The evening began with an invocation by Father Andrzej Bartosz and sharing opłatek (we sincerely thank the donor!). After a delicious meal (as usual at Gala Banquets) and some announcements, there was a ‘surprise’ visit from Santa (thank you again to Marcin Chojecki!); all with background music by D.J. Bartek Zielinski.

The event, in addition to a great chance to share bread and holiday wishes with friends, was one of our fundraisers for our Ralph Modjeski Scholarship fund. And thanks to all involved, we raised \$1670.00!

We would again like to thank all for coming and supporting; including our Sponsors: Collins Engineers and East Balt Commissary. We would also like to thank the Administration and their families, as well as Sweet Generation, for donating the sweets for the Sweet Table; and of course Konrad and the team at Gala Banquets. Finally, we would like to thank Jacek Szostka for the great pictures!



## Book About Ralph Mojkeski, “Artysta Betonu i Stali” by our own Dr. Jan Płachta

Dr. Jan Płachta, distinguished Member (and former President) of the PAEA, has written a book entitled “Artysta Betonu i Stali – Mosty Rudolfa Modrzejewskiego” (currently only in Polish) about the patron of our Scholarship, Ralph Modjeski. The book describes 40 existing bridges designed by Ralph Modjeski that to this day remain as classical examples of bridge engineering. They are spread all over the North American continent.

Ralph Modjeski, a piano virtuoso, who performed with Ignacy Paderewski in Chicago, among others; received numerous awards and honors for his notable achievements as an engineer combining the principles of strength and beauty.

For more information, or to obtain a copy, please contact Dr. Jan Płachta

Zdjęcie na okładce: Wycieczka Western Society of Engineers, Chicago, Illinois and Engineers Club St. Louis, Missouri

Listopad 19, 1904 - Modjeski and Masters Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History Smithsonian Institution

Rudolf Modrzejewski światowej sławy budowniczy wielkich amerykańskich mostów, syn aktorki Heleny Modrzejewskiej był również wirtuozem gry na pianinie. Koncertował z Ignacym Paderewskim w Chicago, umiłował muzykę Chopina, jego nokturny, mazurki, etudy i polonezy grał z pamięci. Był członkiem Towarzystwa Filozoficznego, członkiem Chicago Art Society, Był nie tylko genialnym inżynierem ale również biznesmenem i wyjątkowym organizatorem budowy mostów. Nadal funkcjonujące kilkadziesiąt rekordowych mostów amerykańskich są klasycznymi przykładami sztuki i inżynierii. Prasa amerykańska pisała że był artystą betonu i stali, Napoleonem budowy mostów. Modrzejewski zasłużył sobie na naszą pamięć i wdzięczność.

**Jan S. Płachta** studiował inżynierię budowlaną w Krakowie, w Wiedniu, oraz w Chicago. Doktorat z dziedziny geotechniki uzyskał na Politechnice Krakowskiej. Jego zainteresowaniem jest propagacja osiągnięć technicznych Polaków na kontynencie amerykańskim. Interesuje się szczególnie mostami budowanymi przez Rudolfa Modrzejewskiego. Jest autorem kilkadziesiątu publikacji które ukazały się prasie polskiej, amerykańskiej i w kilku krajach europejskich. Często wygłaszał na ten temat odczyty na kontynencie amerykańskim oraz w licznych krajach europejskich.

Okładkę projektowała Tara Lynn Price  
[www.tlpricefreelance.com](http://www.tlpricefreelance.com)

Jan S. Płachta

## Job Postings

The PAEA has received several inquiries about posting jobs on our website. The Administration will be updating the Job Opportunities page, and listing such opportunities on our Facebook page. Please send all job postings to: [contact@polishengineers.org](mailto:contact@polishengineers.org). Thank you!

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## **Special Interest**

### **Request for Survey Distribution (not official PAEA Survey)**

In November, the PAEA Administration received a request from Agnieszka Weiner (researcher at the European University Institute in Florence, and member of the Europeans Throughout the World association) to publish a Survey of EU Nationals living outside of EU to our Membership. After review (taking the Survey, determining as legitimate- no identifying personal information was required), we decided to publish the link- see below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3CCHP63>

The objective of the survey is to gather factual information about the links of EU citizens with European Union and with their countries of origin while they live outside of the EU. The results will be used for raising awareness at the European institutions and advocating for policy and financial programming to support diaspora organizations.

Please note: this Survey is not directly associated with the PAEA.

### **Chicago Engineers' Foundation Fundraiser – Showing of Bridging Urban America**

Thursday, January 26, 2017 @ 5:30pm, Union League Club, 65 West Jackson, Chicago, Illinois

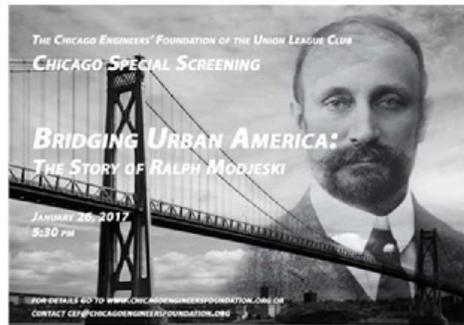
The Chicago Engineers' Foundation, together with Basia & Leonard Myszynski cordially invite all PAEA Members & sympathizers to their January 26<sup>th</sup> fundraiser for their Scholarship Fund, featuring a screening of Bridging Urban America, appetizers, networking, and a distinguished panel discussing the importance of infrastructure in building the United States.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.chicagoengineersfoundation.org/events/cef-events/bridging-urban-america-the-story-of-ralph-modjeski>

## Bridging Urban America

THE STORY OF RALPH MODJESKI



BRIDGING URBAN AMERICA celebrates master engineer Ralph Modjeski, some of our most strategically significant 20th century bridges and their impact on urban development and commerce.

The film explores the scientific mind and artistic soul of a Polish-born, Paris-trained immigrant who contributed to the building of a modern America and is a tribute to innovative engineers, bridge workers and fabricators during two eras of building transportation infrastructure.

**Moderator:**

- Ms. Mary Wisniewski, Transportation, Chicago Tribune

**Panelists:**

- Mr. Daniel Burke, Deputy Commissioner, Engineering, Chicago, Department of Transportation
- Dr. Alan Cramb, President, Illinois Institute of Technology
- Ms. Basia Myszynski, Co-filmmaker, Bridging Urban America

**January 26, 2017 5:30 PM**

**Film, panel, networking & appetizers**

**Tickets \$65 ULC members \$68 Non-members**

**\$60 each for 5 tickets or more**

**[www.chicagoengineersfoundation.org](http://www.chicagoengineersfoundation.org)**



### Special Event

The Chicago Transportation Committee & Chicago Engineers Foundation

Special screening of this film of Modjeski who was a founding member of the Chicago Engineers' Club which was launched in 1903.



Union League Club  
65 West Jackson  
Chicago, Illinois

## Gift from the Heart Foundation Junior Board Party/Fundraiser

Saturday Jan 28, 2017, 6-9pm, Boss Bar, 420 N Clark St, Chicago, Illinois

Gift From the Heart Foundation/Dar Serca invites you to our Junior Board's Seventh Annual Give to the Heart party which will be held at Boss Bar on Saturday Jan 28th, from 6:00-9:00pm. Join us for a drink package for \$55 that includes wine and beer, a specialty drink and appetizers. Boss Bar is located at 420 N Clark St., in Chicago (in the trendy River North area).

All of the proceeds from the event directly benefit children hosted by Dar Serca. The foundation works closely with health care facilities to give the children lifesaving surgeries. It also provides housing, food and financial support to families of children with severe disabilities.

For more information, please see:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/304364243293016/>

## **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Opening of the Polish Museum of America**

Sunday, January 22, 2017 @ 4-8pm, Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642

The Polish Museum of America cordially invites all PAEA Members and sympathizers to an elegant special evening commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the opening of The Polish Museum of America Sunday, January 22, 2017 from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. in the Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall of The Polish Museum of America.

The evening's reception will include special artistic performances, cash bar, and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$50 per person, and include two (2) complimentary drink tickets. Proceeds from this event will go towards PMA general operations.

For more information and tickets please call: (773) 384-3352 ext. 2111

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1826269750971004/>

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[www.polishengineers.org](http://www.polishengineers.org)