
POLISH-AMERICAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED



IN 1934

P.O. Box 241, Northbrook, IL 60065-241, USA • www.polishengineers.org

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

- DATE:** Friday, May 18th, 2018
- TIME:** Doors Open 7:30 p.m.; Business Meeting begins 8:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Our Lady Mother of the Church
8747 W Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60656
- SPEAKER:** Andrew Pawlowski
- TOPIC:** East meets West – documentary
Artist in Concrete and Steel
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Dr. Jan Plachta

Dr. Jan Plachta worked for over 30 years for the US Army Corps of Engineers at the Chicago District Office. He graduated with a Civil Engineering degree from the Technical University in Vienna, Austria. He has an MS degree in Structural Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology and a PhD degree in Soil Mechanics from Politechnika Krakowska in Kraków, Poland.

He worked on a great variety of Chicago District flood control projects, performed Dam Safety Inspections and other Corps of Engineers major civil works projects, like Lock and Dam structures on the Mississippi River, Ohio River and Illinois River.

He has published numerous technical articles in professional periodicals documenting the accomplishments of engineers of Polish heritage and has made numerous presentations at the Corps of Engineers Conferences, the ASCE, SAME and PAEA meetings.

ABSTRACT

The 42 minutes long documentary tells the story of the bridge that first connected Rock Island to Davenport in 1856, including how Henry Farnam led the effort to build the railroad and the bridge; the dramatic collision with the steamboat Effie Afton just two weeks after the bridge was completed; and Abraham Lincoln's successful defense of the railroad's right to cross the river in the trial that followed. The bridge was not only a symbol of conflict but a crucial link to the transcontinental railroad and settlement of the West. Both locally and nationally, its historic importance cannot be overstated.

The documentary features interviews with Lincoln historian Douglas Wilson and esteemed historian and author Douglas Brinkley as well as bridge engineer and historian Bill Ashton, and Rock Island Arsenal historians George Eaton and Paul-Thomas Ferguson, intertwined with stories from local residents with family connections to this significant site of U.S. westward settlement that came almost 20 years before the bridge in St. Louis.

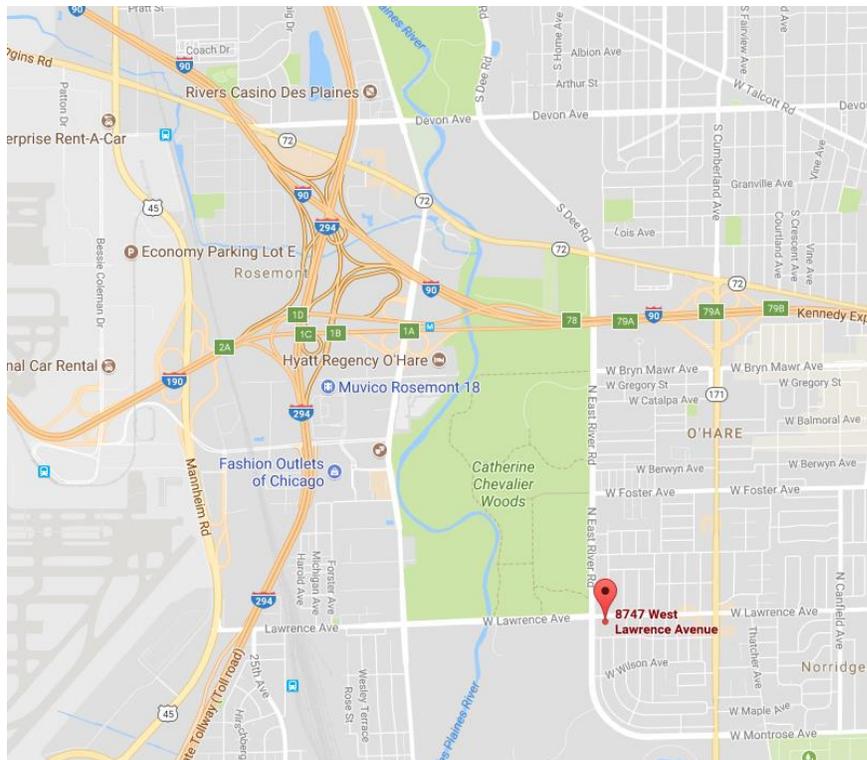
Douglas Brinkley said, "If I were to pick the symbol, to put my thumb on a map of where that connection between East and West began, it was not at the arch in St. Louis (that's for Lewis and Clark history). The real beginning of connection east and west was the bridge that connected Rock Island, Illinois, with Davenport, Iowa. It is well to remember that the current bridge at this location built by Ralph Modjeski in 1896 is still in service.

Jan Plachta will also briefly discuss the English version of his book “Artist in Concrete and Steel.”

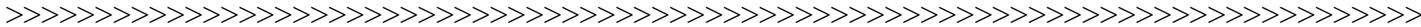
PAEA Announcements

MEETING LOCATION

Our Lady Mother of the Church
8747 W Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60656



The entrance closest to our room is at the back of the church (Green arrow)- the best parking location is off of Oakview Ave, behind the church (Red box):



2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES

There is no change in dues for 2018: **\$70 per year, senior citizens and students \$35 per year.**

We ask that everyone pay their dues as soon as possible; and thank those who have already paid. Membership Cards will be provided to all those who paid their dues.

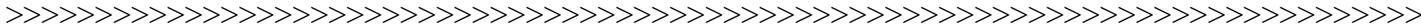
Questions? You may inquire at the meeting or send an email to: administration@polishengineers.org

You may send your dues directly to our Treasurer:

Mr. Marek Rozwadowski
5718 W. 84th Street
Burbank, IL 60459

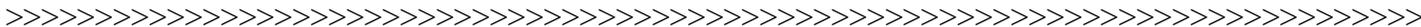
You may also pay your dues at our meetings, and receive your Membership Card immediately.

Dues are critical in supporting the work of the PAEA- thank you for your support.



Reminder: Summer Break

Just a friendly reminder that after our May 18th meeting, the next PAEA meeting will be September 21st, 2018. As typical, we will be taking our Summer Break. However, the fun does not end- please see below for information on our Summer Picnic!



Reminder- the Polish American Engineers Association on Facebook

We would also like to remind our Members & Supporters that the PAEA is on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Polish-American-Engineers-Association-PAEA-1153830014674800/>

Please check it out, and help us keep it active by 'like'-ing and posting interesting material.

Special Interest

All PAEA Members & sympathizers are invited to send information for our Special Interest section. Please send to contact@polishengineers.org; at least 2 weeks prior to our next meeting. It will be published in the next Bulletin.

Polish Museum of America Summer Gala 2018

Friday, June 8, 2018 @ Café La Cave (2777 Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, IL 60018)

The Polish Museum of America warmly invites all PAEA Members and sympathizers to their 38th Summer Gala! This year's event will again take place Friday, June 8th, and Café La Cave; and is a wonderful and fun way to support the PMA! For more information:

http://www.polishmuseumofamerica.org/?event=38th-pma-summer-gala&event_date=2018-06-08

Water reclamation plant tours offer insight into water transformation

Saturday, May 19, 2018, 9 a.m. to noon

Who: Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

What: Open house and tours of six water reclamation plants

Where: Calumet Water Reclamation Plant, 400 E. 130th St., Chicago
Egan Water Reclamation Plant, 550 S. Meacham Rd., Schaumburg, IL
Hanover Park Water Reclamation Plant, 1220 Sycamore Ave., Hanover Park, IL
Kirie Water Reclamation Plant, 701 Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL
O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant, 3500 Howard Street, Skokie, IL
Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, 6001 W. Pershing Road, Cicero, IL

If you have ever been curious about what happens to the water after you flush the toilet, take a shower or wash dishes, a chance to satisfy that curiosity lies just ahead. On Sat., May 19 from 9 a.m. to noon, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) will offer facility tours at six water reclamation plant (WRP) locations. All ages are welcome and no reservations are necessary.

Visitors will watch MWRD staff recover resources and transform water at these fascinating and important facilities. For example, the Stickney WRP treats more than 1.4 billion gallons of water per day and has the capacity to treat more than two billion gallons per day. It's one of the largest such facilities in the world. The MWRD serves 10.35 million people in an 883.6-square-mile area of Cook County, which includes Chicago and 128 suburban communities.

The free open houses and tours are part of the Value of Water (VOW) Campaign's Infrastructure Week which sheds light on the importance of maintaining and modernizing the nation's infrastructure. Across the country, water treatment agencies and VOW members host tours to explain why water infrastructure matters to their communities and the nation.

Besides offering visitors an exclusive look at its plant operations, the MWRD is promoting its efforts in improving regional storm water management by giving away potted oak tree saplings to restore the region's depleted canopy and help reduce flooding. Tree distributions also occur every Wednesday at MWRD plants. For more information about obtaining free tree saplings, visit www.mwrdd.org.

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