

Breakfast of Engineers



Michael Angelone is a professional engineer with a background in mechanical and industrial engineering and a B.A. from City College of New York. After working as an Engineer in Design and Construction at Johnson Controls, Brookhaven National Lab, and Verizon, Mr. Angelone launched his own consultancy business in Oyster Bay in 1982.

Nora Brew of Walden Environmental Engineering, PLLC is a New York State licensed Professional Engineer and Project Manager with over 20 years of experience in environmental engineering. She has a B.S. in Agricultural Engineering from Cornell University and an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Manhattan College. Ms. Brew is an expert in environmental regulatory compliance, environmental assessments, and remedial alternative development and evaluation, project bid documents and specifications, grant writing and management, permitting and budgeting. In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, she was closely involved in strategic planning and coordination with many municipal clients to maximize dollars received for recovery and restoration of impacted communities

Richard Cameron founded Carson Optical Inc. in 1990 and now serves as President of the company. Carson specializes in magnifiers, binoculars, and consumer optical products. Mr. Cameron graduated in 1984 from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in Finance and currently oversees a large engineering team. Carson Optical's design laboratory includes advanced CNC machines, 3D printers, and advanced optical testing equipment. The design lab allows the research and development team to fine-tune concepts before production. As a result, Carson has built a patent portfolio encompassing more than one-hundred patents ranging from magnifiers to complex optical testing procedures.

Philip Coniglio serves as the Founding Engineering Co-op Director and Assistant Adjunct Professor at Hofstra University's Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science after 40 years' experience as an engineering and operations executive for six High Technology companies on Long Island. These companies specialized in AC/DC power supply manufacturing, electron beam accelerators, robotic system integrator, military combat systems, and fabless semiconductor manufacturing. Mr. Coniglio grew up in Woodside Queens, earned a B.S. in electrical engineering from City College of New York, and earned his Master's degree in Engineering Management from the NYU Tandon School of Engineering while working as an engineer at Lambda Electronics Corporation in Melville.

Laurie Gathman Kowalsky serves as the Principal IP counsel for Philips Intellectual Property & Standards. She attended Stony Brook University for an undergraduate Engineering degree and received her law degree from the Maurice A. Deane School at Hofstra University. Ms. Gathman Kowalsky specializes in intellectual property management including patent and trademark litigation, intellectual property counseling, offensive and defensive patent licensing, patent valuation, risk management, and patent scouting.

Jerritt Gluck is an engineer specializing in building systems. Mr. Gluck has evaluated NYC building energy usage for over 25 years. His career has included hardware design and product development as a member of Stony Brook University's MRI development laboratory directed by Nobel Laureate Paul Lauterbur. Mr. Gluck is a consultant, researcher, and educator and currently serves as a member of the Building Performance Institute's Multifamily Buildings Technical Standards Committee. Mr. Gluck is currently CEO-Bonded Building & Engineering. He has been a thermal spray technologist, and an MRI/NMR sensor/probe designer. Mr. Gluck, a graduate of Stony Brook University, has a B.S. in Engineering, and Biology, M.S. in Technical Systems Management, and an M.S. in Materials Engineering.

Joseph M. Heaney III is the owner and principal of Walden Environmental Engineering, PLLC, consulting firm headquartered in Oyster Bay, New York. Mr. Heaney has skillfully used his 30 years' experience in the industry to continuously fulfill clients' needs based on the principles of integrity, professionalism, cost effective services, trust, social responsibility, and profitability. He has a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Lafayette College and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Manhattan College. Mr. Heaney holds a Professional Engineering license in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. He is also a Certified Safety Professional with over 25 years experience in facility operations' complex regulatory framework.

Keith Kowalsky served as president of Flame-Spray Industries, Inc., a state-of-the-art company that develops and implements thermal spray technologies. In 2009, Mr. Kowalsky was named National Inventor of the Year along with his team for the development of the Plasma Transferred Wire Arc Thermal Spray Apparatus and Method, a system designed to improve fuel consumption that is now used by Ford, Land Rover, Nissan, Caterpillar and Detroit Diesel. Mr. Kowalsky earned a BS in Physics from Buffalo State College, a BE in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook and an MS in Materials Engineering from Stony Brook

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Dr. Robert Kukta is the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Stony Brook University. He joined Stony Brook in 1999 as a faculty member of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, after serving as a Postdoctoral Scholar of Applied Mechanics at Caltech. He earned his PhD in Engineering (1998) from Brown University. Robert's research is in solid mechanics, involving the mathematical modeling and simulation of microstructural evolution. He is best known for his work on the dynamics of dislocations and the mechanics of steps on vicinal surfaces of crystals. He received an NSF CAREER award for this work.

Peter McCusker has been a software developer at Google since 2009. He graduated from Ohio State University with his engineering degree.

Shila Shah-Gavnooudias has served as Commissioner of the Department of Public Works in Nassau County since 2009, overseeing the maintenance and operations of country roads, construction, sewage, traffic, and numerous engineering units. At the beginning of her career, she served as a Civil Engineer in a firm in the tri-state area and then served as a Project Manager in the field of civil design in a local firm. Ms. Shah-Gavnooudias earned a M.Sc. degree in Engineering Management and a BS in Civil Engineering from Polytechnic University. She is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional.

Peter Syrett is a retired New York City Fireman of over 25 years. He served in the 3rd Armored Division of the US Army during the Vietnam War as a Combat Engineer. He was stationed in Hanau, Germany. He worked with NATO forces to design and build floating bridges over German rivers using amphibious vehicles.

Christina Berardi Tuohy has been involved in various projects including the design, construction oversight, operation, and maintenance of groundwater and soil remediation systems. She has also been involved in various state Superfund, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) closure projects. Her responsibilities included preparation of feasibility studies; completion of pilot tests; remedial design of various in-situ and ex-situ technologies; and operation and maintenance of remedial systems, construction oversight, construction management, project management, engineering cost analysis, and engineering report preparation. Ms. Tuohy specializes in civil site design, resiliency, landfill design and operation, storm water management, and environmental site investigation. Ms. Tuohy is a Licensed Professional Engineer in the states of New York, Indiana and Connecticut and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

James Wiesenfeld specializes in architectural structures and is a licensed engineer in six states. He has been teaching at NYIT for over 30 years and has extensive experience with the design of structural steel, reinforced concrete, light-gauge metal, and wood framing systems. He also has designed sanitary tanks and earth retention and foundation structures. His work includes design, forensic investigations, studies, and expert testimony. He attended SUNY at Stony Brook, SUNY at Buffalo, Polytechnic Institute of New York, and New York Institute of Technology, and holds degrees in Civil Engineering and Energy Management.

Art Zahradnik serves as a Senior Hydrogeologist for the international consulting engineering firm, Arcadis. Over his 25 year career, Mr. Zahradnik has been primarily involved with management and remediation of groundwater and soil contamination problems in New York, New Jersey and New England, and has specialized in quantitative analysis of groundwater flow systems. He has developed extensive experience in all aspects of environmental remediation process life-cycle through initial assessment, remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) and remedial design/remedial action (RDRA) through long term OM&M and regulatory closure. Mr. Zahradnik earned a BS in both Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences from Lehigh University and an MS in Hydrogeology from Wright State University in Ohio. Mr Zahradnik also holds an Engineer-In-Training (EIT) certification.

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