



ASCE Region I Assembly, September 25 – 27, 2009

LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND ATTRACTIONS

Dear Delegates & Guests,

On behalf of the Rhode Island Section of ASCE, welcome to Providence. We hope that your stay here is pleasant, informative, and most importantly, a whole lot of FUN!!!

I've put together a list of attractions and activities for you which are within walking distance of the hotel. It is a short, but I've tried to be concise. The hotel concierge can help you out with specific directions and additional information. Please do not be afraid to pull anyone from our section aside at any time with any questions whatsoever. We're thrilled to have you all here and hope you have a wonderful time!

Best Regards,

Bill

William G. Young, P.E.
President, ASCE – Rhode Island Section
Sales Engineer/Project Consultant, Contech Construction Products

GOOD BEER CLOSE!

Trinity Brew House. Directly across the street from the hotel.

SHOPPING, MOVIES, DAVE & BUSTER'S

Providence Place Mall (5-10 min.). Walk Northeast down Sabin Street past the Convention Center and go into the Westin Hotel. Go to the 2nd floor and walk across the sky bridge into the mall.

ART MUSEUM

Rhode Island School of Design Museum (15-20 min.) – This is a first class museum and a must see for those art connoiseurs in the group. Speak with the hotel front desk or concierge for detailed information.

STROLLING

Waterplace Park (5-10 min.) – Waterplace Park is in front of the Providence Place Mall and the riverwalk is simply beautiful. Take a stroll down as far as you like. This project won the “Presidential Award for Design Excellence” in the early 1990's.

SIGHTSEEING – Historic Architecture of Providence

The RIPTA trolleys run up onto the East Side of Providence from Kennedy Plaza (5 min.). The East side is home to the famed Ivy League Brown University as well as some of the most well preserved historic homes in the country. You'll truly think you're in San Francisco when you venture up the hill.

PERFORMING ARTS

There are several great performing arts venues within walking distance in Providence. Please enquire with the concierge in regards to tickets and show times. Unfortunately, the Spirit of America Show at the Dunkin Donuts Center is completely sold out. ☹

EATING

Federal Hill! (5 min. across the I-95 bridge) Look for the big Pineapple arch across the Highway! What can I say.... The Italian Restaurants on Federal Hill are critically acclaimed throughout the world. The only places in the United States that can rival 'The Hill' are Little Italy in NYC and the North End of Boston. Nothing else even comes close. If you are even remotely interested in Italian Food, I would not miss this. They even have Italian Seafood dishes that are to die for! Federal Hill is an ideal dinner destination for Saturday night. We did not book reservations yet, but I'd recommend you discuss dinner plans tonight in advance with small to medium groups, and use the hotel concierge to their fullest potential to get you in. Saturday night is insanely busy on the Hill! Another point, "The Hill" was home to the New England Mob (Patriarca Crime Family) even up until the 1990's. You'll see that it's celebrated there in the same way Hollywood celebrates "The Godfather." Like I said, "The Hill" is a must see experience in Providence.

Favorites of mine on "The Hill" are:

Camille's

Cassarino's

Mediterraneo

Venda Ravioli (for the best take out/Italian Market experience of your life!)

Pastiche (Don't order dessert at the restaurant), go to Pastiche!!!

No matter where you go on "The Hill", you can't go wrong!

PROVIDENCE RIVER BRIDGE/HURRICANE BARRIER TECHNICAL TOUR

We will meet in the conference room at 3 p.m. sharp on Saturday and have a 15 minute Introductory Presentation from Patty Steere, P.E., Bridge Dept. Manager for the Maguire Group. Patty was the engineer of record for the brand new Providence River "I-Way" Bridge. This structure is a network arch suspension bridge and was erected 17 miles down the bay at the old Quonset/Davisville Naval Air Combat facility. The bridge was floated in one piece up the bay and set into place. It was featured on the History Channel's "Mega-Movers" show a couple of years back.

Following this, Bill Young will VERY briefly introduce the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier and we will take a brisk 20 minute walk to the barrier where we will be given a first rate tour by the City of Providence. While up on the barrier's catwalk, you'll be standing directly under the bridge and Patty will answer any questions you may have.

PAUL MOYER AND THE GIN DOGS

Paul's band will be playing in Taunton, MA on Saturday night starting at 9 p.m. at the Atlantic Café, 10 Plain Street in Taunton. This is about a 30 minute drive and we'd need to carpool. I can take 4 people with me and have already designated myself to drive. This should be a lot of fun and I know Paul can't wait to show us how to rock and roll!

