

SPARKS

The Monthly Newsletter of the Harrisburg Chapter of PSPE

October 2009

VOLUME LXXVI, No. 2



**Harrisburg
Chapter of
Pennsylvania
Society of
Professional
Engineers**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Richard E. Miller, P.E.

Summer is over and fall has just begun and the work of the Board is underway. The Treasurer Steve Talian, P.E. has completed the 2009-2010 budget and the Board is working on approving it at our October meeting. Also related to financial matters, Director Mark Rzcudlo, P.E. is reviewing the Chapter's financial records as part of the annual audit report to the Board. Director Susan Bruns, P.E. is currently soliciting advertising contributions to defray the cost of the Directory and other important initiatives. Director Paul Brandl, P.E. is busy with the process of assembling our 2009-2010 Harrisburg Chapter Directory which will be distributed for the first time electronically this year.

Director Yves Pollart, P.E. has attended the State MATHCOUNTS coordination meeting and Directors Sara Frailey, P.E., Paul Brandl, P.E. and Ronald Ladyka Jr., P.E. will be assisting Yves in preparation of the Harrisburg Regional MATHCOUNTS competition. We again look forward to over 200 students attending and participating in MATHCOUNTS. Hopefully many of you will be there to help as well.

Director Sara Frailey, P.E., with the support of the Board is actively planning for engineers to speak as part of the Pre-College and Career Guidance program. She is also looking for mentors to participate in the Architecture Construction and Engineering (ACE) program. President Elect Thomas Terry, P.E., our Chapter Programs Chair, was part of the team that made a special effort to organize a fun joint PSPE, ASHE, and ASCE Picnic and Casino Night event in August. He also planned a tour program in September of the WITF studio in Harrisburg. We will look forward to many more interesting and well attended programs as the year progresses.

Director John Baldassari, P.E. very successfully organized and published the first **SPARKS** Monthly News Letter under his guidance. I encourage all Chapter members to also visit the Chapter's website www.pspehbg.org which is continually being updated with Chapter information by Vice President Ronald Morris, P.E. and others from the Board.

President Richard Miller, P.E., President-Elect Thomas Terry, P.E., Director Daniel Giles, P.E., and Alternate State Director Larry Brown, P.E. are all involved with representing the Chapter on the Engineers Week Council as it plans the annual celebration of the important work of engineers. Secretary Mark Gaines, P.E. is overseeing the recording of the Board's deliberations, and Director Mark Rzcudlo, P.E. will be planning our awards presentations for the upcoming year.

Past President William Cameron, P.E. will help to guide the Board in his role as Parliamentarian and will review the By-Laws as needed. State Director Kenneth Jones, P.E. will continue his fine work of informing the Board of state legislature activities that could affect our profession.

All the Board members are doing a tremendous job serving the membership. We still however have a vacant position on the Board which means some of us are doing double duty. If you are interested in serving on the Board please contact Immediate past President Rick Poplaski, P.E.



SPARKS

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Board Meeting

- 10/14/09

Chapter Meeting

- 10/09
- Joint meeting w/ Engineers Society

Improving Energy Performance in the Building Envelope

- 10/14/09
- Presented by PEPP

PSPE Annual Conference & NSPE Northeast Region Conference

- 10/15-17/09
- Bear Creek Mountain Resort

Rock Slope Sustainability Analysis/Design

- 10/29-30/09
- Presented by PSPG

MATHCOUNTS Competition

- 02/10

CODE OF ETHICS

NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers: Preamble

Engineering is an important and learned profession. As members of this profession, engineers are expected to exhibit the highest standards of honesty and integrity. Engineering has a direct and vital impact on the quality of life for all people. Accordingly, the services provided by engineers require honesty, impartiality, fairness, and equity, and must be dedicated to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. Engineers must perform under a standard of professional behavior that requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct.

Continuing Education Bill Advances

With mandatory continuing education (CE) for professional engineers, surveyors and geologists expected to begin in Pennsylvania this October, the specifics of the program still remain in doubt. The State Registration Board published regulations earlier this year that spell out what types of CE qualify for credit, but those regulations have not yet reached final form. At the same time, the PA House of Representatives has moved a bill, House Bill 975, that broadens the type of activities that would qualify for credit. **House Bill 975** passed the House on August 19th, but it still needs to clear the Senate. Our lobbyists have been led to believe that the Senate Consumer Affairs and Professional Licensure committee is prepared to vote on the bill in September. The main difference between the regulations and the bill revolves around how credits can be earned. Under the regulations, courses must be taken, while the bill allows credits to be earned for a variety of other activities such as teaching, publications and patents.

There are also a few remaining issues to be ironed out in the bill. The PA Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE) is still advocating for a special provision to allow retired engineers to continue to use the title "professional engineer" without the need to meet the CE requirements. Also, the Department of State has raised questions about a section of the bill that tightens up the provisions in the Act that regulate use of the term "engineer" or "engineering" by corporations. Neither of these issues is expected to slow down consideration of the bill in the Senate. Both PSPE and the Department of State favor the CE program established in the legislation over the regulations.

Licensees should also keep in mind that neither the bill nor the regulations would require any licensee to meet the CE requirements prior to the license renewal in September of 2011. In other words, this October marks when credits can begin to be earned, not when they need to be completed. So even if the CE rules haven't been completely finalized by October 1, there will still be plenty of time before the next license renewal.

MATHCOUNTS Donations are Needed and

The Harrisburg Chapter welcomes donations toward expenses for its February 2010 MATHCOUNTS competition. This popular and important math competition, typically involving about 30 public and private middle schools from the Greater Harrisburg Area, is particularly in need of support for 2010. With the State budget situation looking bleak, and continued State support for MATHCOUNTS looking very uncertain, contributions from Chapter Members and other supporters are needed to maintain program viability at the Chapter and State levels.

Members can mail contributions, of any desired amount, directly to Chapter Treasurer, Stephen F. Talian, P.E., at 4987 Farmington Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112. To assure contributions are tax deductible, checks should be made out to "PEF/MATHCOUNTS"; The Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation (PEF) is a 501(c)3 organization that supports MATHCOUNTS at the Chapter and State levels.

Thank you for your support of MATHCOUNTS--Harrisburg Chapter Board of Directors

Stephen Talian, P.E., Treasurer

Heavy Component Move

Since early 2008, the Baker Harrisburg Office has been working on facilitating the move of two very large industrial components from Port Deposit, Maryland to a power plant just south of Middletown, PA - a distance of about 75 miles. The components are replacement units and will allow the power plant to continue to operate far into the future. The reason Baker is involved is because the size and weight of the components exceeds the legal size restrictions and requires a special PennDOT hauling permit. The permit process includes bridge and highway engineering for the planned route. Each vehicle and load weighs approximately 811 tons. This magnitude is over 10 times heavier than the maximum legal load and 4 times heavier than what is considered a "super load" by PennDOT. The loaded vehicles measure 156 feet long, 20 feet wide and 24 feet high. The transport vehicles travel at a speed of only two to three miles per hour.

The components are transported on Self-Propelled Mobile Transports (SPMTs). These remarkable vehicles are owned by a specialized heavy hauling company. The units are similar to the equipment used to move the space shuttle to the launch pad.

The components were manufactured in France by Baker's client. The units are basically large cylinders full of pipes which serve as heat exchangers. Super-heated water enters one side and the heat is transferred to adjacent pipes turning water into steam to turn the turbine.

Baker's work includes the following tasks:

- Route selection
- Bridge analysis
- Mitigation method designs to allow bridges to be crossed or bypassed
- Environmental permitting
- GIS data utilization for site plans and right of way plan development
- Inspection of the route both before and after the move to document any damage for repair
- Coordination with utilities to raise affected lines from 18 feet to 25 feet
- Roadway plans for stream crossings and other work
- Traffic control plans
- Traffic signal removal
- Working with PennDOT and MD SHA
- Hiring and working with a contractor to perform all the necessary work



Membership Directory

Please log on to www.nspe.org/membership to update and check your personal information. All you need to log on is your email address that is on file. If you do not have an email address on file you can contact member services at memserv@nspe.org or phone our Member Services Hotline at (888) 285-6773. Please include you NSPE ID that can be found on your PE Magazine with any correspondence.

PSPE Harrisburg Chapter, Board of Directors ••••

Life & Retired Membership Info

It is the policy of the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) that members be recognized for years of service to NSPE and the profession, by the granting of a reduced amount for national dues, as set forth in Bylaw 11 and further described below.

1. A member shall become eligible for life-member dues status if the person has been a continuous member of NSPE for a period of 40 years and is at least 65 years of age.
2. A member shall be eligible for retired-member status if the person has been a continuous member of NSPE for a period of 25 years, is at least 65 years of age and has retired from active practice. For these purposes, active practice shall mean providing engineering consultation totaling more than 300 hours in a given calendar year.
3. A member must request status as a life or retired member by written request to the Executive Director of NSPE, or their designee. Age and years of service will be confirmed by NSPE prior to granting life or retired dues status. Members who wish to be granted retired member status are entrusted to honor the provision concerning active service as stated above.
4. The granting of life or retired member status shall affect the member's national dues only. State Societies and chapters may choose to provide reduced dues programs at their discretion, but are not required to conform to the national program. Conversely, NSPE is not required to conform to any reduced dues program provided by a State Society of chapter.
5. A member granted life-member status shall receive a waiver of national dues. Life members will be encouraged to make a voluntary tax-deductible contribution to the NSPE Educational Foundation.
6. A member granted retired-member status shall receive a waiver of one-half national dues annually.
7. Those members who were within five (5) years of eligibility for either life or retired member prior to the adoption of the amendment of Bylaw 11 adopted in June 2008, shall be "grandfathered", and shall be granted life or retired member status as set in the bylaw prior to amendment.



HARRISBURG CHAPTER OF PSPE

2009-2010 Officers & Directors

- Richard E. Miller, P.E. - President
- Thomas R. Terry, P.E. - President Elect, *Programs*
- Ronald N. Morris, P.E., C.M. - Vice President, *Public Relations/website,*
- Stephen F. Talian, P.E. - Treasurer
- Mark E. Gaines, P.E. - Secretary
- Richard S. Poplaski, P.E.- Immediate Past President, *Nominating*
- William D. Cameron, P.E. - Past President, *Parliament and By-Laws*
- Kenneth S. Jones, P.E. - State Director, *Legislative*
- Larry M. Brown, P.E. - Alternate State Director, *Eweek Council (alternate)*
- John J. Baldassari, Jr., P.E. - Director '10, *Publications (Sparks)*
- Susan Bruns, P.E. - Director '10, *Advertising*
- Mark Rzucidlo, P.E. - Director '10, *Awards, Auditing*
- Yves E. Pollart, P.E., BCEE - Director '11, *MATHCOUNTS (Chair)*
- Sara F. Frailey, P.E. - Director '11, *Pre-College & Career Guidance, MATHCOUNTS (committee)*
- Vacant - Director '11
- Daniel R. Giles, P.E. - Director '12, *Eweek Council, Science & Engineering Fair*
- Ron Ladyka Jr., P.E. - Director '12, *Membership Services, MATHCOUNTS (committee)*
- Paul Brandl, P.E. - Director '12, *Directory, MATHCOUNTS (committee)*

SPARKS

Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers
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Harrisburg, PA 17102

www.pspehbg.org

SPARKS BOOSTERS

CMX Engineering

Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Gunn-Mowery LLC

H. Edward Black & Associates, LTD

Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

To become a SPARKS Booster, please contact Susan Bruns, P.E. at sbruns@gfnet.com. View additional Boosters on-line at www.pspehbg.org.

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