



Delaware County Chapter Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers Newsletter

OCTOBER 2002

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The DELCO Chapter PSPE is pleased to announce that our speaker for the **October 16th** meeting will be **Cecile Charleton**, *Executive Director of the Delaware County Transportation Management Association*, a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to improving the transportation network serving the county.

Ms. Charleton will be talking about the many pros and cons of telecommuting and how working from home in our technologically advanced age can actually increase productivity while meeting ever-increasing personal needs of employees.

Come on out and see what's in store for the future of our workplace.

The meeting will be at the usual times:

6:30 pm cocktails

7:00 pm dinner

at the

Towne House in Media

Cost:

\$20 .00 per person

Checks payable to:

"PSPE Delco Chapter"

Make reservations with Michael J Ciocco at 610-532-2884 or mjcengr@att.net on or before Monday, October 14, 2002.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Liberty Power Plant Tour in September, it was a great success. The behind the scenes tour was very informative and just technical enough for the electrical engineers in the group to get a bit excited. Many thanks again to Al Elmy of Liberty Electric for setting up the tour.

While we do have a tentative meeting schedule put together for the year, future meeting topics are always open to suggestion. If you have any ideas, please feel free to contact me. A tour of the new terminal facilities under construction at the Philadelphia International Airport is in the works for the spring.

The Delco chapter is once again getting ready to request nominations for the 2003 Engineer of the Year Award. So if you know any good engineering candidates that are from Delaware County, please feel free to contact me with the names and information.

Lastly, our chapter needs your help. We are still looking for a President Elect for the chapter. If you are interested in a position or want more information on volunteering your time, please feel free to contact me.

God Bless America!

Very Truly Yours,

Michael J. Ciocco, P.E.

President, Delco Chapter of PSPE

2002-2003 SCHEDULE

October 16, 2002

Cecile Charleton,
Executive Director of the Delaware County
Transportation Management Association
Topic: Telecommuting

October 25 through 26, 2002

NSPE Northeast Region Meeting
Christiana Hilton Conference Center
Newark, Delaware

November 12, 2002

Joined with Southeast Regional Meeting
Bucks County/Willow Grove
Topic - "*Homeland Security*"

February 19, 2003

Engineer of the Year

March 19, 2003

Geo-synthetics
Dr. Robert Koerner

April 16, 2003

Philadelphia Airport New Terminal Tour
(*Tentative*)

May 21, 2003

MATHCOUNTS & Science Fair Awards Dinner

June 6, 2003

Annual Family Picnic PSW
Springton Lake Pavilion Area
4:00 to 7:00 PM

June 11 through 15, 2003

69th Annual PSPE Convention
Courtyard Marriott
Erie, PA

July 10 through 12, 2003

NSPE Convention & Exposition
San Antonio, Texas

This Newsletter is published by

The
Delaware County Chapter
Of the
Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers

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SUSAN BEST, P.E.

News, articles and comments always welcome and encouraged. Forward all submissions to the Editor at the address, fax or email, above.

Next Issue: November 2002

Deadline for Submissions: October 29

OCTOBER MEETING

Telecommuting

The many pros and cons of telecommuting will be discussed in this presentation. Telecommuting offers many opportunities for employers to expand the employee pool they pull from, while saving the company time and money. It is also an opportunity for employees to adjust their work schedule to fit personal needs. Telecommuting is an important step to begin the process of elevating the congestion on our nation's highways, as well as an opportunity for most businesses that find they are competing in the marketplace for skilled employees who are looking for jobs that offer a more family friendly benefits package.

Telework America Survey 2001 found: "The influence of working at home on productivity is important to organizations considering the move to Telework. Many managers fear that performance will decline when one is away from the workplace. Over seventy percent (72.4%) reported that working at home slightly or greatly increased productivity; 19.5% reported that it remained the same; and 6.5% reported that their productivity slightly decreased since working at home."

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

CECILE CHARLTON

Ms. Charlton is currently the Executive Director of the Delaware County Transportation Management Association, a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to improving the transportation network serving the county. In this capacity, she has served on Senator Rick Santorum's Philadelphia Telecommuting Steering Committee for the

promotion and implementation of a national e-commute pilot project. She was named Co-Chairman of the Association for Commuter Transportation's 2002 National Conference, held in Philadelphia in August 2002. Programs she has developed through the DCTMA include the Municipality Construction Coordination Program, a forum to bring county municipalities together to exchange information on road construction projects. Partners in this project include utilities, SEPTA, PENNDOT, DVRPC, and various providers of goods and services to municipalities.

Prior to coming to the DCTMA, Ms. Charlton was a District Representative for Congressman Curt Weldon, for six years, administering the military academy selection programs.

Ms. Charlton is currently serving as Vice-Chairman of the Delaware County Women's Commission, as a Board Member of the Greater Delaware County Chapter of the American Red Cross, where she serves as Chairman of the Nomination Committee, Media Borough's Parking Committee and is a past member of the Upper Providence Township Environmental Commission.

Ms. Charlton is a life-long resident of Delaware County. A graduate of Haverford High School and Delaware County Community College, she is currently attending St. Joseph University. Ms. Charlton is a single mother who has successfully raised two sons — David, a graduate of Widener University and employed by Unisys, and Alex, currently attending West Chester University.

According to the 2000 Census, 6,745 of Delaware County's 253,922 workers, or 2.66% worked from home, the lowest total number and percentage of the four suburban Counties.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING

The Anthracite Chapter will be hosting a joint Regional Meeting in Pottsville on Thursday, October 24, 2002. The evening will begin with a tour of the old Yuengling Brewery at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at the Pine View Acres Restaurant in Pottsville. The menu includes a choice of Top Round of Beef or Stuffed Flounder; the cost is \$20.00. (BEER included during tour)

Anyone wishing to car pool or caravan to Pottsville from the Lehigh Valley should meet at the office of Barry Isett & Associates in Trexlertown. Reservations can be made by contacting Harry Garman by (phone) 610-250-7855, (fax) 908-454-2262 or at hegarman@aol.com. Directions will be made available to all interested members.

FROM THE NEWSWIRE

PENNDOT AND SEPTA CONTINUE INVESTMENT IN DELAWARE COUNTY

PENNDOT recently began the consultant selection process on two projects important to the mobility needs of eastern Delaware County. In the first project, all the traffic signals along the Chester Pike (US 13) corridor from Chester City to Darby and the Baltimore Pike corridor from Upper Darby to Yeadon will be coordinated and a Closed Loop System with a separate centralized control system created for each corridor. The Baltimore Pike system is a continuation of the work completed a few years ago on the corridor from the Blue Route to Upper Darby, primarily through Springfield Township.

In the second project, the consultant selection process has also begun for the new interchange ramps connecting the Commodore Barry Bridge approach (US 322 at I-95) with Second Street (Route 291) in Chester, opening up the Chester Waterfront area to a potential development boom. Design work also continues on the Second Street corridor improvement project

extending the Route 291 'Boulevard' along the waterfront area.

SEPTA hopes to begin selecting consultant(s) soon for the final design of the restoration of train service along the R-3 route from the current terminus at Elwyn to Wawa. A large park-n-ride lot, accessible directly from US Route 1, is planned in the vicinity of the Franklin Mint.

On August 26, PENNDOT began a \$2.8 million project to repair and resurface 23 miles along 21 state highways in Delaware County. The work includes:

- Ridley Avenue between U.S. Route 13 (Chester Pike) and Swarthmore Avenue
- Route 13 (Ninth Street) between the Avenue of the States and Madison Avenue in Chester city
- Route 13 (Chester Pike) between Chester City limits and Fairview Road
- State Route 252 (Providence Road) between Chester Road and Brookhaven Road
- Rose Tree Road between State Route 352 and State Road
- Route 352 (Edgmont Avenue) between 22nd Street and Upland Avenue
- Route 352 (Edgmont Avenue) between Upland Avenue and U.S. Route 1
- State Route 452 (Market Street) between Meetinghouse Road and Dutton's Mill Road
- 2nd Street between Putcon Avenue and Tincum Island Road in Tincum Township
- Main Street/Lansdowne Avenue between 10th Street and Golf Road in Darby Borough
- Lansdowne Avenue Bridge over SEPTA
- Springfield Road between Providence Road and Woodlawn Avenue in Lansdowne Borough
- Calcon Hook Road between Hook Road and Route 13 (Chester Pike)
- Sharon/Clifton Avenue between Hook Road and McDade Boulevard
- Edward Street between Ninth Street and Concord Street in Chester City
- Concord Road between Bethel Road and Penell Road in Chester Township
- Meetinghouse Road between Market Street and Chichester Avenue
- Bethel Road between Chichester Avenue and State Route 291 (Foulk Road)
- Rose Valley Road between Avondale Road and Route 252 in Nether Providence Township
- Elwyn Road between Route 352 and Baltimore Pike in Middletown Township
- Ramps at Stewart Avenue, Interstate 95 interchange in Ridley Township

Delaware County Chapter Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION SURVEY

Over the past few years, email has become a significant means of communication. As a result, we are offering our members the opportunity to receive the newsletter via email. This will be a great way to save on copying and postage costs, as well as being a quicker means of distribution. Another advantage with an electronic version is that you can forward the newsletter to others interested in our Chapter's activities. Email receipt of the newsletter will require downloading a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader – instructions will be provided when it is emailed.

We are asking our members to let us know how they would like to receive the newsletter in the future. Please respond to this survey to help the Delaware County Chapter better serve you, our membership. You can call in or email your response to the survey to John A. Nawn, P.E. at 215-587-9000 x3000 or john_nawn@urscorp.com (*preferred*).

- E-mail the newsletter to me:
- Mail the newsletter (via USPS) to me at:
 - home work
- E-mail and mail (via USPS) the newsletter to me at:
 - home work

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Company Name and Address (if applicable): _____

Home Address (if applicable): _____

Email Address: _____

NSPE Membership ID Number (if available): _____

Our return this form to:

**John A. Nawn, P.E.
URS Corporation
8 Penn Center, 21st Floor
1628 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19103**

FROM THE EDITOR

This month I have asked our newly 'hired' Assistant Editor to introduce herself and talk about some of the improvements coming to the Newsletter.

John A. Nawn, P.E., PTOE

I didn't really intend to be an "Assistant Editor." All I did was volunteer to convert the newsletter from a Word or WordPerfect document into Adobe Acrobat format, so that it could then be emailed to the chapter members. But with all my years as a volunteer in various organizations, I should have known that once you speak up, you're given some type of job and title.

I've been asked to introduce myself. The question is – how much do you really want to know? I'll try to keep it short, but those who know me will know how difficult that could be. I'm a native Pennsylvanian, graduated from the University of Delaware, and then returned to Pennsylvania by way of Los Angeles (three years) and Chicago (five years). I currently work for Urban Engineers, Inc. as Deputy Practice Leader for Traffic Engineering and ITS, having joined them in April of this year.

I've been an active participant of various technical societies over the years, including the Society of Women Engineers, Institute of Transportation Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Highway Engineers, Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, and the National Society of Professional Engineers. I've been the Judging Coordinator for the Future City Competition since the first year in Philadelphia, and I'm the Senior Vice Chair of the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council. I've also helped coordinate the

scoring at the Delaware County MATHCOUNTS competition for the past few years.

I'm an active member of Temple Lutheran Church, Havertown, particularly in the vocal choir and hand bell choir. I used to be active in various school-related activities, but I found out how to get fired from that – my son graduated last year (and continued the family tradition by going to the University of Delaware – but alas, not in engineering). Despite the fact that my son is no longer involved, my husband and I continue to be active in the Boy Scouts, at the troop, district, and council levels.

And now for why I'm writing this. Over the past few years, email has become a significant means of communication. As a result, we are offering our members the opportunity to receive the newsletter via email. This will be a great way to save on copying and postage costs, as well as being a quicker means of distribution. Another advantage with an electronic version is that you can forward the newsletter to others interested in our Chapter's activities. Email receipt of the newsletter will require downloading a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader – instructions will be provided when it is emailed.

For this issue, we are sending everyone on the list a paper copy. If Carl DuPoldt has an email address for you, then you will also receive this newsletter via email. We are asking our members to let us know how they would like to receive the newsletter in the future. Please respond to this survey to help the Delaware County Chapter better serve you, our membership.

Susan L. Best, P.E.

**DELAWARE COUNTY CHAPTER
PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

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**National Society of
Professional Engineers®**

2002 Northeastern Region

October 24, 25, & 26



Hagley Museum



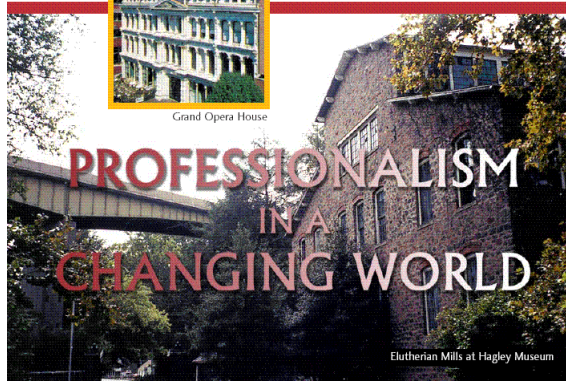
Christiana Hilton
Conference Center
Newark, Delaware



Winterthur Museums & Gardens



Grand Opera House



Elutherian Mills at Hagley Museum



**National Society of
Professional Engineers®**

Register today at www.udel.edu/DES

With changes in the engineering profession and the growing expectations of clients, taking time to learn what's new and where engineering is heading is a necessity. Come to the NSPE 2002 Northeastern Region Annual Conference on October 24, 25 and 26. Meet your fellow NSPE Regional Members at Thursday's Welcome Reception. Don't miss keynote speaker Lt. General Henry J. (Hank) Hatch (retired), former Chief of Engineers and the Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Get current on any of these topics at Friday's break-out seminars.

- ▶ **Hold on to Your Ethics** - Surviving the push to save time and money.
- ▶ **Diversity** - Responding to the growing demands and challenges in the changing engineering workplace.
- ▶ **Training and Goal Setting** - Learn from different companies like MBNA how to motivate employees to instill professionalism.

Network with colleagues and have some fun!

From shopping at nearby Christiana Mall, to the fun of thoroughbred horse racing and slots at Delaware Park, Northern Delaware in autumn is a "small wonder." Special tours to Winterthur Museum will be available for accompanying guests. Other sites of interest include the beautiful Brandywine Valley, Hagley Museum and Longwood Gardens.

**DELCO CHAPTER PSPE
Jack Smyth, Sr., P.E.
Boles Smyth Associates
2400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103**