



The Philadelphia Engineer

Newsletter of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I begin my year as President of your Philadelphia chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE), I wish to share with you some thoughts and plans for our organization.

The society's mission is to promote the engineering profession in the community. We sponsor many events throughout the year, including but not limited to: Mathcounts, Future Cities, Math and Science teacher awards, college scholarships, outstanding engineering achievement awards, Delaware Valley engineer of the year award and Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the year award.

The Philadelphia chapter is the founding member of the Delaware Valley Engineers' Week Council. The purpose of this group is to honor the engineering profession. Each year, the Delaware Valley Engineers' Week Council plans and organizes activities associated with the celebration of Engineers' Week in the Delaware Valley. Part of the activities includes the election of the Engineer of the Year from nominations received from Delaware Valley Professional and Technical societies. At the engineers' week banquet, the Engineer of the Year, the scholarship winner, outstanding engineering achievement, outstanding high-school student, student papers, teacher's awards, and Future Cities winners are all honored and announced.

Our parent organization, the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) recently formed a future directions task force to among other things reaffirm or reinvent the NSPE vision and mission and recommend bold overall changes to ensure the long-term sustainability of NSPE. The NSPE vision statement is as follows: "NSPE is the recognized voice and advocate of licensed Professional Engineers." At the chapter level, our goal is to live and practice this new vision. For those engineers who make the commitment to become licensed, we want NSPE to be the organization they look to for defending their interests and defining their image.

One important issue this year continues to be the possibility that Continuing Education Units (CEUs), will be a mandatory requirement for maintaining licensure status. Debate on the state level regarding this issue is ongoing. If you want your voice to be heard on this, please feel free to forward your comments and concerns to my attention, and I will make sure they get to the appropriate people on the state level.

I am very excited and motivated to serve you as President. I hope that my enthusiasm is contagious, and that I can inspire people to become involved. Nationally NSPE has a membership decline similar to the Philadelphia chapter. This has reduced income and recently forced us to reduce the size of our board of directors. If we do not reverse our membership losses, we may be forced to examine our current activities and programs and possibly eliminate or curtail some of them. More members and more volunteers are needed. We do a lot with a small staff, and we could do so much more for the engineering profession in the Philadelphia area if we only had a larger, more active membership. Please join us for one of our exciting, new and original meetings we are preparing for the upcoming year. Give us a try, come out to a meeting, bring a fellow engineer, and see what we're all about.

Please mark your calendars for the 2005 Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award program which will occur on December 1st, 2005 at the McCall Country Club. This is always a well attended and enjoyable event. Please see the meeting description included in this Newsletter. We are planning joint meetings with the other engineering technical societies, such as ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) and PSPE, Delaware County Chapter. We are also organizing a joint meeting on a bio-medical engineering topic with The Philadelphia County Medical Society. The impetus for this project is related to the fact that my wife, Dr. Joyann Kroser is President this year of The Philadelphia County Medical Society. The reasons for pushing for joint meetings are numerous: First, as discussed previously, our staff of volunteers is small. Coordinating monthly meeting topics takes time and effort. Second, as an "umbrella organization", one of our goals is to expand our area of influence to all professional organizations. Attending joint meetings is one way of doing that. Third, networking is good for people of all ages and levels of career, and this is one way of doing that. If you are in a technical engineering organization, and would like to arrange a joint meeting between PSPE Philadelphia Chapter and your society, please let me know.

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We already have elected Khaled Hassan to take over as President after my term. Like me, Khaled Hassan with Pennoni and Associates has not been active with PSPE for a long time, but he is also motivated and enthusiastic to have a successful year under his tenure. My goal is to use the momentum created during my term, and carry it over to Khaled's presidency.

I am accessible and approachable as your president and we board members cannot do it alone. Please feel free to make liberal use of my email address: Schmoyer19128@yahoo.com with comments, questions or suggestions. While we are working on an interesting slate of meeting topics for the upcoming year, it is not yet set in stone. If you have any interesting ideas for a meeting, please feel free to send them my way. At the Philadelphia Chapter, we are trying to "think outside the box" in order to make our chapter more interesting and "user friendly" to the membership. Your thoughts and ideas are needed and appreciated. Do not be afraid to get involved because each person can make a difference so that we once again have a large active committed membership serving all Philadelphia engineers. We are members of a great profession, and we need to make the community aware that we are proud of our profession. I look forward to working with everyone, and seeing everyone at a meeting in the coming year.

Sincerely, Jason Schmoyer, President of the Philadelphia Chapter of PSPE

**DECEMBER 1, 2005
OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS NIGHT**

The PSPE Philadelphia Chapter is proud to announce the 2005 Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award program, which will occur on December 1st, 2005 at the McCall Country Club. In following with tradition, we have planned an evening of exciting projects that will be competing for the 2005 Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award. As of press time, nominations for the competition are still open, but from early indications, we expect five to seven entries. Entries will be judged by a panel composed of the Presidents of the local PSPE chapters. This year, the Philadelphia chapter has the distinguished honor that this annual meeting is also going to be the PSPE regional meeting. We will welcome the chapters of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Reading and Valley Forge. Come out to hear some outstanding, interesting presentations. In addition, there are lots of networking possibilities at this event. The December outstanding achievement dinner is sure to be a packed event, so be sure to make your reservations early.

**MARCH 2, 2006 (TENTATIVE)
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING JOINT
MEETING WITH THE PHILADELPHIA
COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY**

We are planning a joint meeting with the Philadelphia County Medical Society. A potential topic is Biomedical Engineering, which should be of interest to both groups. Other possible areas of joint interest are advocacy and legislative issues. This will be a good networking opportunity for all. While the details are still being worked out, this is sure to be an interesting event.

**MAY 4, 2006
STUDENT - TEACHER AWARDS NIGHT**

On this evening, which is always an overflow event, presentations will be made to Awardees for Best Math and Science Teacher in Philadelphia. In addition, our Chapter's college scholarship recipients and our top MathCounts winners will receive their awards. A local college will provide an interesting Senior Design Presentation. And because this is our last meeting of the chapters' year, new officers for the following year will be installed. This event will occur on May 4, 2006 at the McCall Country Club in Upper Darby.

**APRIL 6, 2006
THE ORDER OF THE ENGINEER CEREMONY, WITH
GUEST SPEAKER PSPE PRESIDENT HARRY GARMAN**

To all fellow engineers - please join us for "The Order of the Engineer" ceremony to be held at a yet to be determined location in Philadelphia, and hear President of PSPE Harry Garman speak. For those of you unfamiliar with The Order of the Engineer" ceremony, please read the following:

The Order of the Engineer was initiated in the United States to foster a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession, to bridge the gap between training and experience, and to present to the public a visible symbol identifying the engineer.

The first ceremony was held on June 4, 1970 at Cleveland State University. Others like it have since spread across the United States at which graduate and registered engineers are invited to accept the Obligation of the Engineer and to wear a stainless steel ring.

The obligation is a creed similar to the oath attributed to Hippocrates that is generally taken by medical graduates and which sets forth an ethical code. The Obligation likewise contains parts of the Canon of Ethics of major engineering societies. Initiates, as they accept it voluntarily, pledge to uphold the standards and dignity of the engineering professions and to serve humanity by making the best use of the Earth's precious wealth.

The Order is not a membership organization; there are never any meetings to attend or dues to pay. Instead, the Order does foster a unity of purpose and the honoring of one's pledge lifelong.

STATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PSPE has put together a draft document which contains potential Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) requirements. If passed, it will affect all practicing Licensed Engineers practicing in Pennsylvania, so we need to be aware of this issue. It will be presented and proposed at the State Board meeting on September 24, 2005. The stated purpose excerpted from the draft document is "In order to help safeguard life, health, and property, and to promote the public welfare, the practice of professional engineering in Pennsylvania requires continuing professional competency." The "scope" listed in the draft document is as follows: "Each in-state and out-of-state licensee shall be required to meet the continuing professional competency requirements of these regulations for professional development as a condition for licensure renewal. Continuing professional competency obtained by a licensee should maintain, improve, or expand skills and knowledge obtained prior to initial licensure or develop new and relevant skills and knowledge." If you would like a full copy of the draft document, please e-mail your request to Jason Schmoyer, President of PSPE, Philadelphia Chapter at schmoyer19128@yahoo.com. Feel free to voice your opinions. If you have any comments you would like presented at the state board meeting, please forward them to Len Bernstein, Secretary/Treasurer of PSPE at lenbernsteinpe@engineer.com by September 22, 2005.

2005-2006 OFFICERS

Jason S. Schmoyer, PE
President
 Email: Schmoyer19128@yahoo.com

Khaled R.Hassan, PE
President-Elect

Fredric L. Plotnick, PE
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Ton Friese, PE
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Richard A. Mulford, PE
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Cas DeCwikel, PE
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John Liddy
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CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Edward P. Pluciennik, PE
Chapter Director, 2007

Connie Ly
Chapter Director, 2007

Phillip D. Udo-Inyang, PE
Chapter Director, 2006

Robert M. Rodgers, PE
Chapter Director, 2006

Mort Lerner, PE
Chapter Director, 2008

Jim Cokonis, PE
Chapter Director, 2008

MATHCOUNTS CORPORATE SUPPORT QUADRUPLES WITH RAYTHEON COMPANY, SHELL OIL COMPANY, AND XEROX CORPORATION BECOMING THE NATIONAL SPONSORS

What is MathCounts? MathCounts is a national enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement. It is an annual four-stage competition. Students first compete within in their schools then move on to the Local Chapter Level Competition. The winners of the Local Chapters then move on to represent their region to compete in the State Level Competition. And finally, the winning students will move on to the National Level Competition to represent their home State.

In the 2004-2005 MathCounts Competition, Pennsylvania ranked first place with the most participating schools - 394 total. California came in second with 311 schools.

Our Local Philadelphia Chapter sent six top students from three different schools to the State Competition, which was held in Harrisburg on States Competition on March 18-19, 2005.

Lockheed Martin will sponsor the National Competition beginning in 2006.

These are just a few topics about MathCounts. If you would like to learn more, visit the MathCounts website at www.mathcounts.org. If you would like to take part and volunteer help in the next chapter competition, make a donation, or receive a copy of the next MathCounts newsletter, please email me at cly@tantala.com.

This was my first year as the chapter coordinator for the Philadelphia chapter, and it has been a great experience. I would like to thank all the sponsors, donators, and volunteers who came out and helped in our local event. Thank you. Your profession thanks you, and the engineers of the future thanks you.

MEETING SLATE:

DATE	TOPIC	RESPONSIBILITY
June 23, 2005	▪ Board Meeting #1	Jason Schmoyer
July, Aug 2005	▪ No meetings scheduled - off for summer	Khaled Hassan
September 1, 2005	▪ Board Meeting #2 (at the engineer's club)	Jason Schmoyer
October 6, 2005	▪ Board Meeting #3 ▪ Location: Holiday Inn, City Line Avenue (Room reserved by Dick Mulford) ▪ Donald Delassandro (current engineer of the year speaks) ▪ Engineer of the Year Nominee ▪ Topic: Cira Building, presented by Pennoni and Associates, arrangement by Khaled Hassan	Khaled Hassan
November 3, 2005 (may change)	▪ Board Meeting #4 ▪ Location: Tentative, Union League ▪ Topic: Tentative Joint meeting with ASCE (Khaled inquiring)	Dick Mulford / Jason Schmoyer
December 1, 2005	▪ Board Meeting #5 ▪ Location: McCall Country Club ▪ Topic: Outstanding Engineering Achievement Awards ▪ This will be the PSPE South East Regional meeting, with the Engineers Week Council; PSPE State President, Executive Director; joint meeting with the other regional societies (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Reading, Valley Forge)	F. Plotnick / J. Schmoyer
January 5, 2006	▪ Board Meeting #6 ▪ Location: The Engineer's Club	Jason Schmoyer
February 2, 2006	▪ No Board Meeting ▪ Engineers Week Activities	
March 2, 2006	▪ Board Meeting #7 ▪ Location: Philadelphia County Medical Society Building (2100 spring garden street) ▪ Possible topic: Bio-medical engineering joint meeting with Philadelphia County Medical Society	Jason Schmoyer
April 6, 2006	▪ Board Meeting #8 ▪ Location: McCall Country Club ▪ Topic: Order of the Engineer ring ceremony, PSPE president to speak, joint meeting with the Engineer's club, ASCE and PSPE, Delaware county chapter	Khaled Hassan / Jason Schmoyer
May 4, 2006	▪ Board Meeting #9 ▪ Location: McCall Country Club ▪ Topic: Student-Teacher Awards Night, Drexel Senior Design Presentation	Bernstein / Plotnick / LySchmoyer

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

2005-2006 COMMITTEES

Committee	Appointed Chair
Teacher Awards	Len Bernstein/Connie Ly
Budget	R. Mulford
ByLaws	L. Bernstein
Chapter Activities/Meetings	J. Liddy
Chapter Fund	F. Plotnick
Engineers Week	J. Cokonis
MathCounts	Connie Ly
Media Relations	C. DeCwikiel
Membership	R. Mulford
Nominating	M. Lerner
Outstanding Engineering Achievement Awards	F. Plotnick
Publications	K. Hassan
Scholarship	F. Plotnick

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Philadelphia Chapter of PSPE (Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers) operates a scholarship program open to high school students who either (1) live in or (2) attend high school in the City of Philadelphia. Other Chapters of PSPE may also have scholarship programs geared to students in other counties. Applications for the Philadelphia Chapter program are routinely sent to and may be obtained from your high school guidance department. Inquiry for additional applications must be made by the guidance department to PSPE Philadelphia at 215-985-5701.

Applicants will be competing for:

1. Drexel University is providing two five-year scholarships of \$5000 per year to be awarded to outstanding candidates by the Philadelphia PSPE scholarship committee. Please check "DREXEL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT" on the application form to be considered for this scholarship.
2. Temple University is providing a four year scholarship of \$2000 per year to be awarded to an outstanding candidate by the Philadelphia PSPE scholarship committee. Please check "TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT" on the application form to be considered for this scholarship.
3. Qualifying applications will be forwarded to the State PSPE Scholarship Committee for further consideration for scholarships currently being solicited by that Committee.
4. Up to two \$500 cash awards will be made by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, and the top applicant competes for an additional \$500 from the Engineers Week Committee for the Delaware Valley.

Several items to keep in mind:

1. Applicant must meet/exceed minimum test scores. (e.g. SAT 600 M 500 V)
2. Applicant must be a citizen of the U.S.
3. Applicant must be a resident of the City/County of Philadelphia. Students resident of other counties should contact their county's PSPE chapter to determine if similar scholarship programs are available, or call the State PSPE office at 717-236-2050 for more information.
4. Scholarships awarded on behalf of Drexel or Temple will be coordinated with other scholarships which may be awarded by these schools (and are not cumulative.)

Please consult our chapter website for application forms.



2006 PSPE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER -
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Deadline for Applications is December 1, 2005

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY NSPE AND PSPE

NSPE is currently accepting scholarship applications for the following:

The Paul H. Robbins, PE Honorary Scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding sophomore, in an ABET-accredited engineering program, for disbursement during the junior year: \$10,000. Deadline March 1, 2005.

The Steinman Fellowship will be awarded to a senior from the NSPE North Central Region (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD) who will graduate from an ABET-accredited engineering program and enter a graduate program in engineering: \$10,000. Deadline March 1, 2005.

The Milton F. Lunch Memorial Internship will provide meaningful summer employment at the Victor O. Schinnerer Company in Bethesda, Maryland, to a student who has completed two years of a four-year degree in an ABET-accredited engineering program: Stipend. Deadline January 15, 2005

The William R. Kimel Engineering Scholarship supports students from the states of Kansas and Missouri, who are in the junior year of a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program: \$2500. Deadline March 1, 2005.

More information and application instructions for these and other scholarships and internships is available on the NSPE web site at the following link:

<http://www.nspe.org/scholarships/sc-home.asp>
for scholarships and

<http://www.nspe.org/students/st2-wnmlf.asp>
for the Lunch Internship.

If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically in lieu of the hard copy, please let Jason Schmoyer, President of PSPE, Philadelphia Chapter know by email at:
PSPE_philachapter@yahoo.com.

If you do not receive an e-mail notice from the chapter regarding the upcoming meeting or first newsletter, that means we probably don't have your correct e-mail address, so please correct that by e-mailing us at the same e-mail address.

