



SUMMER 2008

VOLUME XXV NUMBER 3

REPORTER

The Magazine of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers



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Cover photo:

After years of neglect, Pittsburgh's historic regional parks were in danger of becoming commuter thoroughfares and parking lots. Salvation for Pittsburgh's historic Frick, Highland, Riverview and Schenley Parks came about as a result of a significant shift in the way the City views its open and green spaces. See page 12 for the complete story.

PSPE members are invited to submit project photos to be featured on the front cover of the PE Reporter. Send your photos and supporting article to Jennifer Summers. Deadline for the Fall issue: September 15, 2008.

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Chapters are the Backbone of Our Society

John F. Bradshaw, P.E., PLS

PSPE had a delightful 74th Annual Conference at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel this year. Guests repeatedly stated they had a great time, and were glad to attend.

Drew Bitner, Mark Gaines and Dave McCullough planned a great golf outing and young engineers' hour. There was plenty of appetizing food and many entertaining prizes. Susan Sprague, Central Region Vice

President provided the highlight of the outing with her hole in one on the 12th "vertical" uphill green. Great shot, Susan! Many thanks to Pennoni Associates for sponsoring happy hour at the club.

Education sessions were well attended and I thank Frank Stanton for getting all the sessions approved for NY PDH. Bob Miller, past president of NSPE, brought his quick wit and updated us with news from NSPE. My grandchildren as well everyone else, were captivated with Jim Getty's impersonation of Abraham Lincoln. I love history, and he kept me on the edge of my chair just listening to every detail he as he reflected on Lincoln's life.

During the awards banquet we had another unique guest speaker, former Pennsylvania Governor, The Honorable Richard Thornburgh. His speech covered three important areas in our society – education, energy and economic development. Mr. Thornburgh and his wife, Ginny, were very pleasant, charming, and thanked us for the invitation. Thanks to Bucharth Horn for sponsoring his honorarium.

Joe Boward and Greg Stewart were honored as PSPE Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year respectively, and from reading their biographies, they truly earned it. Congratulations Joe and Greg! Also, I congratulate the Harrisburg Chapter for receiving the Communication Award and the Valley Forge Chapter for receiving the Outstanding Program Award.

I thank everyone who had a part in the program. I especially thank Jennifer Summers, PSPE Deputy Executive Director, who worked very diligently in organizing all the activities, and John Wanner, our PSPE

Executive Director, for his support. I thank Mike Poletti and the entire conference committee for their assistance, and the Lincoln and Harrisburg Chapters as this year's chapter hosts. I thank the sponsoring firms who generously provided the necessary funding to help defray costs. A warm thank you and great appreciation goes out to all who attended and made our conference so successful.

Now it is time to get back to the business of making PSPE stronger and more beneficial to our current members and all engineers in Pennsylvania. In August, your officers will spend an afternoon re-visiting the strategic plan that was established in 2006, and setting goals for the next several years. Ways to address membership concerns, developing young engineers' focus groups, activating a legislative and governmental affairs committee, and establishing an educational task force to prepare for upcoming PDH requirements, are a few of the topics up for discussion. Please contact any of the executive committee officers with your suggestions of any other topics that we should review.

A leadership conference for chapter officers will be held on Saturday, August 9, in State College, Bethlehem and a location to be determined in the west. The session will be conducted via video conference to make participation more convenient.

I look forward to a year of interaction with the executive committee, board of directors, and with all our chapters and members. As stated in the program of our conference, I plan to continue the theme of "Engagement and Initiative" that was established in 2006. I plan to visit as many chapters as possible throughout the Commonwealth. The chapters are the "backbone" for our membership and this is where growth and development of our organization is initiated. I intend to work with NSPE seeking advice, support and material to benefit the advancement of PSPE, and its chapters.

For over 30 years, I have been an active member in PSPE. I have worked with good and dedicated people, all volunteers whose desire is to build and improve the engineering profession. There are many challenges ahead, and your involvement and support is needed to make our organization successful for generations to come. ■

"I don't know what the future holds," I say, "but I know who holds the future." ~ R. G. LeTourneau, an inventor, a pioneer, and an engineering genius of a number of incredibly complex machines, who designed his own life around a unique partnership with God.

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Not Mountain Climbing

Rebecca Bowman, P.E., Esq

I have always wanted to climb. Trees, rocks, construction steel, you name it, I was always ready to climb anything.

I recently read a terrific article written by Joseph V.R. Paiva, PhD, P.E., P.L.S. for *Point of Beginning* called "Climbing the value pyramid" (May 2008). I feel so strongly about the accuracy of Paiva's concept that I need to share it with you. We all know the food pyramid (although what my children bring home from school doesn't look like the one I learned as a child). How about thinking about the food pyramid in terms of client value?

In any information business there are four levels of product to provide our clients. First, we gather data. Some organizations do only that. I have one client whose business is essentially limited to monitoring. He has no contractual ability to stop work if bad data shows up. He has no responsibility to provide interpretation of the data, define problems, or propose solutions. His work product is the gathering of data. (The only reason his is a viable business is that using the instrumentation requires high levels of training and skill.)

Moving up our "food pyramid," the next level of product to provide our clients is information. Once the raw data is gathered, we group it, sequence it, graph it, etc. That enables us to transform the raw data into useful information. For example, a concrete slump test log or a soil compaction log provides lots of raw data. However, before that data can be useful, we must interpret it. We may need to graph the information against time or temperature or plot the locations of the soil samples in order for the data to be useful. Transforming data into information adds value for the client.

Moving further up our "food pyramid," the next level of product to provide our client is knowledge. Once the data has been operated upon to provide information, we apply our knowledge to the information to provide our clients with conclusions. Knowledge enables us to provide our clients with alternatives to deal with the information. If the concrete is slumping at too low a height, we could add A or lower the level of B. If the soil compaction information shows that the easterly corner of the property won't be able to take the loads if it rains more than 1"/hour, we could add A or provide more compaction by doing B.

The highest level of our "food pyramid" is wisdom. Some might call this the tricks of the trade, insider information, or some other term that suggests things that can only be learned by experience. Wisdom includes those things that can only be learned experientially, but wisdom certainly isn't limited to that. Wisdom includes things we add to the mix in consultation with other professions and skill sets. You know, two heads are better than one? What does the lawyer add to the mix? (And don't you dare say "Nothing," either.) What can the environmental engineer bring to the party? If the concrete is slumping at too low a height, information lets us contribute adding A and lowering the level of B as options, but wisdom might add the option of increasing speed the speed of the mixer or the duration of the mixing. If the soil compaction information shows that the easterly corner of the property won't be able to take the loads if it rains more than 1"/hour, information lets us contribute adding A and providing more compaction by doing B as options,

but wisdom might add the option of enhancing the drainage in that area. Wisdom may involve the added perspective of previously experienced consequences of an option.

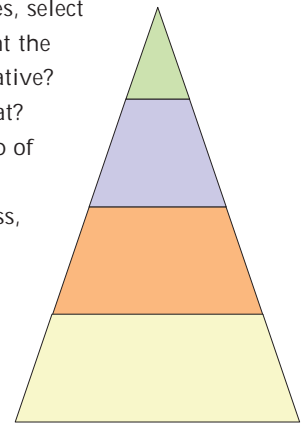
Do you see any patterns here? Any correlation with the problem-solving process? Gather data, develop alternatives, analyze the alternatives, select and implement the chosen alternative? Remember that? With each step of the problem-solving process, we add value.

The more tools we develop to assist us in our work, the easier the work appears to our clients. The more tools we develop to assist us in our work, the easier it is for an inexperienced or unqualified practitioner to appear to do the work. You and I know fellow professionals who think that mystery is sexy, that the client shouldn't have any idea how we arrive at our solutions. I disagree. "Poof" is not a way to add value.

Remember Willy Wonka's machine that produced that candy that was a whole meal? Part of the enchantment was all the clinks and clanks that told you amazing things were happening to the product.

I believe that our clients need to have an understanding of how we add value to a project. They may not need to understand how to select an I-beam, but I

"Risky" continued p. 21



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Infrastructure Investment Highlights State Budget

John D. Wanner, CAE

In addition to funding the usual State activities, the recently enacted Commonwealth budget includes authorization for a significant investment to rebuild Pennsylvania's aging infrastructure. The program appropriates \$350 million of bond funds to repair structurally deficient bridges statewide as well as funding rail and airport improvements. Funds will be immediately directed to 411 bridges (list available at www.dot.state.pa.us, click on the Rebuild Pennsylvania button). The legislation authorizes an increase in the Rail Transportation Assistance Program from \$10 million to \$30 million and includes \$3 million for the preservation of railroad bridges. The bill doubles the aviation grant program to \$10 million from \$5 million and will underwrite more airfield safety improvements, hangar construction and terminal improvements. The money is to be repaid over time from Motor License Fund revenue already earmarked for bridges.

PennDOT estimates that the cost of bringing all state-owned bridges up to current engineering and safety standards exceeds \$11 billion and Governor Rendell made public statement that he will try to address this in the future. The governor said the added investment in bridges will put "tens of thousands of people to work." Rendell was joined at the signing ceremony by state Rep. Joe Markosek, D-Monroeville, chairman of the House Transportation Committee, and state Sen. Barry Stout, D-Bentleyville, minority chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee.

Water and wastewater projects will benefit from new funding. The legislature passed and the governor signed two bills related to water and waste water infrastructure funding: SB 2 provides \$800 million to come from gambling revenues for repairs, improvements and upgrades to drinking and sewerage systems, flood control projects and to repair high-hazard dams. SB 1341 places a referendum on the fall ballot asking voters to approve an additional \$400 million bond for construction, rehabilitation, and improvement of Pennsylvania's drinking water supplies and sewage treatment systems. If voters approve the ballot initiative and authorize the funding, the bond money will be administered through the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST). Financial assistance would be in the form of grants and low-interest loans.

MATHCOUNTS Funding

Thanks to everyone who contacted their State Senators and Representatives to support the appropriation from the Department of Education that makes MATHCOUNTS possible. The funding level was maintained at \$75,000, the same as last year. Even though we had advocated for an increase, being able to maintain the funding at last year's level is considered a victory during what turned out to be a very austere budget. For example, the State funding for engineering equipment grants was cut in half from last year's \$150,000 appropriation. (Over the last two years, the engineering equipment grant program has been virtually wiped out.)

Save the Date! Meetings, Hearings to be Held on Water Resources Planning, Act 220

You are invited to attend combined public meetings and hearings on the Draft Pennsylvania State Water Plan. DEP and the Statewide and Regional Water

Resources Committees will be seeking comments from the public in early fall 2008. Meetings and hearings are set for:

Ohio Region: Monday, September 8
Great Lakes Region: Tuesday, September 9
Delaware Region: Thursday, September 11
Lower Susquehanna Region: Monday, September 15
Upper/Middle Susquehanna Region: Wednesday, September 17
Potomac Region: Thursday, September 18

The meetings and hearings are an opportunity for citizens to provide input on drafts of the updated State Water Plan.

Additional information, including meeting locations and times will be posted on the DEP website in late August at www.depweb.state.pa.us, Keyword: "Water Resources."

Governor's Office Announces Updates to Regulatory Agenda

Here is a mid-year update on anticipated regulations by various agencies of interest to PSPE, as published in the June 21, 2008 PA Bulletin. Contact the listed

agency contact for more information. The entire Regulatory Agenda can be found online at: <http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol38/38-25/1168.html>

1. Department of Environmental Protection – three regulations:
a. Administration of Sewage Facilities Permitting Program 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 72. Comprehensive reorganization and revision to replace Chapter 72 with Chapter 72a. Major revisions include restructuring and updates based on changes to other regulations. Expected in 2008/2009. Contact John Diehl (717) 787-8184, for more information.

b. Standards for Sewage Disposal Facilities 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 73. Comprehensive reorganization and revision to replace Chapter 73 with Chapter 73a. Major revisions include replacing the current prescriptive standards with performance standards. Expected in 2008/2009. Contact John Diehl (717) 787-8184, for more information.

"Capitol" continued p. 18

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PEPP Happenings

Johann F. Szautner, P.E.

It was a cold and rainy Friday night in State College, but no one seemed to notice nor did they care. Conversations swirled around graduation, future employment opportunities and specific career plans of those already hired, interrupted only by cheers for award winners and laughter at the exchange of thesis preparation war stories at the 2008 Senior Recognition and Awards Banquet held at the Nittany Lion Inn, on May 2, 2008.

After an afternoon of listening to and judging Senior Thesis Presentations of Penn State's Architectural Engineering seniors, I felt as elated and tired as some of the students looked. Representing Pennsylvania Professional Engineers in Private Practice (Pa/PEPP) I was honored to serve as part of a distinguished panel of about 50 judges, visiting engineering practitioners from all over the country.

PEPP, true to its mission of sponsoring professional development of engineers in private practice, underwrote two (2) awards this year -- one for the juried best Senior Thesis, including a check for \$1,000; and one for the faculty chosen "Professional Practice Award," also including a check for \$1,000.

Senior Thesis Presentations

The Senior Thesis Presentations are the major highlight of the five year BEA Undergraduate Program. A Senior Thesis consists of obtaining an outside sponsor who provides the student with an actual building that will be used as the model for a variety of technical and management tasks throughout the year. Based on the building, students will investigate and analyze its design and construction, and value engineering components for performance improvements, construction cost and time savings.

Their work is grouped in accordance with four discipline specializations -- construction, lighting/electrical, mechanical and structural. Eight finalists, two from each discipline, were then selected to compete for the best Senior Thesis awards. It is important to note that students are required to include work in their primary discipline area of AE as well as to demonstrate breadth capabilities in several other architectural engineering areas.

This year's Best Senior Thesis Award winner is Jason M. Sambolt, EIT, a mechanical engineering senior, who

selected to value engineer the Xanadu Snowdome Sports Complex, an indoor ski resort building with a retail section planned for the N.J. Meadowlands. He planned to tap into a landfill near the site to harvest the gas as an energy source for heat and power generation. He demonstrated substantial cost savings with positive environmental consequences.

The Professional Practice Award underwritten by PEPP went to Antonio D. Verne, EIT, by selection of the department committee. Selection criteria include planning of a career in private practice, demonstrating leadership qualities and favorably representing the Department of Architectural Engineering and the profession in his activities.

It was indeed a great night for the graduating students as well as for faculty. Students from all branches of Architectural Engineering were recognized in a broad range of nominations and awards. This banquet showed once again that excellence in engineering is alive and well at Penn State's Department of Architectural Engineering. ■

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Membership

Timothy S. Ormiston, PE

As the second year of my tenure as Membership Chairman comes to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Membership Committee for their time spent on events and discussions working to make a difference to the membership of PSPE. Committee members have been active with events across the state, participating in committee calls, and creating a membership concept that will be delivered to the PSPE Board in June. Our membership numbers continue to decrease so it is even more important now to highlight the benefits of membership in PSPE to hold on to the members we have, and encourage new members to join.

As you well know, membership in PSPE, NSPE and the local chapters provides excellent opportunities for personal growth. Zeyn B. Uzman, P.E., President of the Chester County Chapter, PSPE, and former President of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, tells his personal story here...

PSPE Membership...Priceless

I can't tell you how many times I have been asked, "What will membership in PSPE do for me?" I have always answered with the obvious, protecting the PE Act and the interests of the Professional Engineers. Of course, some engineers want more tangible reasons. "What items that I can hold am I going to get for my dues?" NSPE has conducted study after study to put a dollar value on the things you receive with your membership. I am here to tell you that **there are some things you can't put a dollar value on**. As I was recently driving from a new client, I thought of some of these reasons and decided to share them with you.

While there are specific training seminars at the Annual Meeting, it's the committee work that offers the best **on the job training**. For young engineers who want to show their supervisors they are able to handle projects, committee work is a great way to do that. In the process they gain experience in organizational skills and confidence. As a member of a committee, a person observes the process from beginning to end. How do you start a project, organize the process and delegate responsibility to others. After being a committee member, one can become the chair. Being a committee chair teaches someone how to run a project from start to finish, without the stress of worrying about losing your job over it. As each person does more committee work, they become more confident, in turn preparing them to manage an engineering project at the office. I have always said that this is a great training ground for young employees. What is the worst thing that will happen if they do not carry through or make a mistake? The activities may not go smoothly. I would rather that happen than a mistake on an engineering project that could cause greater problems.

**"How can
membership
in PSPE
help me with
project
management?"**

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Establishing Client Contacts	Priceless
Making Lifelong Friendships	Priceless

Many who know me may find it hard to believe that there was a time that I was afraid to get in front of a group and speak.

I can still remember the first time I had to address a chapter meeting. It was the Engineer's Week Banquet 20 years ago and I was scared to death to get in front of 100 people and give the results of the Bridge Breaking Contest. I did it though and continued to speak at chapter meetings, then the State Board meetings. Now, after all that time, I am comfortable speaking in public. Public speaking does not come naturally to everyone, but the fear of public speaking can be overcome with practice. Why is this important? Just think of all the presentations you will have to give in your professional career. When you are comfortable while making a presentation, your client will have confidence in you. The benefits of client confidence in you are numerous.

I moved to Pennsylvania from Illinois 18 months ago and started a new engineering business. Some of my clients I brought with me, but I have established new contacts by attending chapter and state PSPE meetings. My existing clients are located all over the United States. They were referred to me by their contact with the ISPE office or other members within Illinois. Since I have moved here, I have established relationships with almost a dozen people that call on me for my engineering services. This has been a direct result of contacts I have made at chapter or state meetings or referrals from PSPE members.

Some call it networking; I call it making new friends. Attending chapter and state meetings will expose you to new people. Friendships will develop from these meetings. Some of these friends will be the competition, some will be clients. All will be fellow engineers with the same goal in mind, protecting the safety of the public. I have been lucky and some of my best friends are people I met through ISPE, PSPE and NSPE. All of these people have had a positive impact on my life. There are people from all over the country. Additionally, these friendships can help in your professional life. It is easier to call someone you know to ask advice on how to handle a specific problem that you may face. If you need a partner in a project, it is easier to work with someone that you know on a personal level. Additionally, if you should need a job, it is easier to call a friend and ask them for leads.

These are just a few of the intangible reasons to join PSPE. I think that these are just as important as the other benefits that you get from membership. Next time someone asks you, "What can PSPE do for me?" tell them your story.

~ Zeyn B. Uzman, PE, SE, NSPE

The clients I have are a direct result of my involvement with NSPE, PSPE and ISPE.

"Opportunities? They are all around us... There is power lying latent everywhere waiting for the observant eye to discover it."

- Orison Swett Marden -

Member Question of the Month...

Q What was the best opportunity you have acted upon as a result of your membership in PSPE?

A Send your reply to contactpspe@pspe.org with the subject: Member Answer of the Month.



Pittsburgh's Green Web

*John Conroy
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After years of neglect, Pittsburgh's historic regional parks were in danger of becoming commuter thoroughfares and parking lots. They had been largely ignored because of a lack of funds, fragmented management, and a perception that city parks are merely leftover land. As a result, these legacies of the 19th and early 20th centuries suffered from overused roads, overgrown vegetation and crumbling infrastructure.

Salvation for Pittsburgh's historic Frick, Highland, Riverview and Schenley Parks came about as a result of a significant shift in the way the City views its open and green spaces.

The Parks Master Plan-Blueprint for a New Attitude

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy - a nonprofit organization whose mission is to restore, renew, revitalize and preserve the City's four great regional parks - and the City agreed that there had to be a change in public attitude before they would be able to move forward with a plan for saving the parks.

"We want people to appreciate these historic parks," says Phil Gruszka, the Conservancy's Director of Parks Management and Maintenance Policies. "Our four great parks are integral

parts of the fabric of the City, and they should be valued as historical, cultural and ecological assets."

Working with public and private partners, the City and the Conservancy used workshops, public meetings and symposia to build a public consensus of stewardship for the parks. With this public support, they laid out their vision for the future of the parks in a detailed guidance document, Pittsburgh's "Regional Parks Master Plan."

Emphasizing a balance of use, history and ecology, the 20-year Master Plan tasks the parks' custodians with four primary responsibilities: reclaim the historically diverse landscape; ensure the historical integrity of the infrastructure; sustain the historical ecology of the parks; and respond to the needs of modern users.

Developers of the Master Plan designed it to be flexible and responsive to changing needs. "We arrived at a consensus of opinion around the core principles of the Master Plan before preparing it," says Gruszka. "We want to make sure that any changes to it will be consistent with the original goals and principles." To that end, future projects will be reviewed through a public process that is continually updated.

Going Green

In a time characterized by a growing interest in sustainability and green development, the Master Plan was designed to optimize the City's green assets. To accomplish this, the four parks will be treated as a system by organizationally and physically connecting them. Relying upon this new management strategy, the Master Plan provides the framework for a "Green Web" of interconnected green areas, neighborhood parks, trail systems, wetlands and waterways, and riverfront land with the four parks as cornerstones.

The Master Plan acknowledges that no single park can fulfill all of the needs of modern users. In 1998, the Conservancy conducted a study of park usage. What they found is that modern residents use the parks in much the same way as their predecessors - taking walks, family picnics and exercise. The parks are also used for modern activities like rollerblading, mountain biking and organized team sports.

The City and the Conservancy settled on a strategy that aims to restore and preserve the special character and historical features of each of the four parks. At the same time, each of the parks will be modified to accommodate popular modern activities.

Financing the Future

As Director of Parks Management and Maintenance Policies, it is Phil Gruszka's responsibility to identify needs within the parks. He then works with the Conservancy Development Department to arrive at budgets. Finally, Conservancy fundraisers seek out financing, primarily through grants.

In 2007 the Conservancy was awarded more than \$3 million in federal SAFETEA-LU funds. These funds are earmarked for surface transportation programs such as trails, and their use will require federal oversight.

According to Bob Slagel, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) District 11 Transportation Enhancement Coordinator, "Our job is to assure that the SAFETEA-LU funds are spent according to federal regulations." PennDOT will review and approve the design drawings, oversee construction, and perform final inspections. All work performed must be approved by PennDOT before any funds are released. As Project Manager, Slagel will coordinate PennDOT's oversight.

The Conservancy recently raised \$27 million in capital campaign finances. This money, combined with the federal funds, allows restoration efforts to focus on all four parks instead of on specific projects in individual parks.

Progress

Even before completing the Master Plan, the City and the Conservancy were laying the foundation for its implementation. The City created park-specific work crews within the Department of Public Works, and teamed with the Conservancy to establish a Parks Oversight Committee.

Two major restoration projects-the Frick Park Gatehouse and the Schenley Park Visitor Center - were completed before the Master Plan was unveiled. "As a result of the restorations, these structures are now heavily used," says Gruszka. These projects were obvious priorities for the City, and the Conservancy was happy to help revitalize these gems."

Planned major initiatives include replacing the Frick Environmental Center, and completing a Natural Areas Study and an Athletic Fields Feasibility Study.

The SAFETEA-LU funds will be used to continue restoration of some of the parks' trails and bridges, and to erect signage. One of the most significant contributors to the deterioration of trails has been runoff water. Drains installed in the early 1900s are undersized for current runoff conditions, and some are plugged. Additionally, land development inside and outside the parks has increased the amount of runoff.

The parks' crumbling bridges, although structurally sound, need repairs to prevent additional deterioration.

PBS&J evaluated and determined what trail and bridge repairs are necessary, and prepared the design and construction documents that contractors will use as guidance for performing the work. Bidding is expected to take place during spring 2008, with construction beginning later in the year.

To get the maximum benefit from the SAFETEA-LU funds, the Conservancy will seek matching contributions. Work will be prioritized to target restorations that are most needed. A well thought-out construction schedule will minimize conflicts with park users and recreation



programs. To streamline construction and reduce costs, the Conservancy has already obtained clearances and other permits from a myriad of agencies that include PennDOT, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Allegheny County Conservation District, and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Coordination with these agencies will continue throughout construction.

A New Legacy

Pittsburgh's four great regional parks have a rich history of design and construction that spans more than a century. Historical photos and design drawings show the craftsmanship and attention to detail that went into the landscapes and infrastructure. Like parks in many older cities, Frick, Highland, Riverview and Schenley Parks had suffered the effects of neglect. But, Pittsburgh is not like other cities.

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, the City of Pittsburgh, and hundreds of others in the public and private sectors who have a passion for preserving the City's past have renewed a legacy. Through their efforts, the future of Pittsburgh's four great parks is assured. ■

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PSPE Conference at a Glance

Joseph F. Boward, *Engineer of the Year AND President's Dedicated Service Award*
Greg A. Stewart, *Young Engineer of the Year* | Traffic Planning & Design Inc., *Pa PEPP Professional Development Award* | PSPE Valley Forge Chapter, *Outstanding Chapter Program Award* | PSPE Harrisburg Chapter, *Chapter Communications*



Award | **Harry E. Garman**, *NSPE Fellow* | **Craig Weaver**, *Happy Birthday!* | **Susan Sprague**, *Hole-in-one!* | **John Bradshaw**, *PSPE President 2008-09* | **Wyndham Gettysburg**, *beautiful property, outstanding service.* | Former Pennsylvania Governor and Pennsylvania Attorney General **Dick Thornburgh** and his wife **Ginny** joined PSPE for the awards banquet. (Photography courtesy of John Rudy, Kimberly Kossar, Frank Stanton, and Paul Dugan.) ■



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- Coordinate design activities with hydraulic, mechanical, software, etc. engineering groups to ensure a complete and concise system is achieved
- Create and research standard/customer specific electrical equipment bills of lading for production of injection molding equipment
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PSPE Member Update

Following is a list of members who have joined PSPE to date in 2008. Chapter officers can access member data in realtime with a login and password from NSPE. If your chapter does not yet have a membership chair or officer who has this access, please contact Jennifer Summers, jennifer@wannerassoc.com or 717.441.6051.

Anthracite

Brian W Baldwin
Daniel P Cook EIT
Heath Machamer
Mark E Spatz PE

Beaver County

Mark Lamison
Robert Scheib PE

Bucks County

John Gamel EI/EIT
Brian P Teles PE

Chester County

Jacob Bortman
Richard K Evans
Christie M Pace
David Redash

Delaware County

Daniel J Archdeacon
Ann M Catania
Richard A Horenburger PE
Joseph A Rodo EI/EIT

Harrisburg

Kingsley M Azubike PE
Ross E Buchan EIT
Paul Lutzkanin
Scott R Popovich PE
Todd J Trautz EI
James M Zendek PE

Johnstown

Stephen L Dillen PE

Lehigh Valley

Jim Robinson PE
Peter Staffeld PE,EIT,PhD
Kevin T Wright Jr EIT

Lincoln

Zachary S Smith EI,EIT

Luzerne County

Julianne Lawson PE

Midwestern

Harold Jackson PE

Northeast

Thomas Millard IV PE
Kurtis Searing PE

Philadelphia

Timothy Brindley EIT
Matthew Canver
Robert Cargill II PhD
Abraham EI
Shafiq Islam Siddiqui

Pittsburgh

Michelle L Adamshick PE
Gowtam Atthipalli
Larry G Cartwright PE
Brian M Fink
Stephen J Gabauer
Noah S Gerber
Raju R Iyer PE,MASCE
Charles J Niederriter EI/EIT
Donald Olmstead
David Sciullo PE
Kenneth A Shimko PE

Reading

Christopher Martincic

Susquehanna

Dale Moyer

Valley Forge

David D Donovan PE
Frank G Falzone
Daniel B Humes EI
Brian R Keaveney PE
Erica McGuire

Washington

Kerry D Kennedy PE
Alberto Vennettilli PE

Chapter not yet determined

Jamil Allen
John B Tunney

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c. General Provisions Clean Streams Law 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 91. This proposal will include amendments to Chapter 91 to require a management plan as part of the permit application, and clarify issuance of innovative technology permits for wastewater treatment facilities. The proposal will also include revisions to account for changes to CAFO regulations. Expected in 2008/2009. Contact Parimal Parikh (717) 787-8184 , for more information.

2. Department of State – State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists

General Revisions 49 Pa. Code, Chapter 37 (number not yet assigned). The regulation would clarify education and experience requirements for regular and "grandfathered" candidates for examination and licensure; revise categories of acceptable professional references for candidates; update the branches of engineering for which license examinations are offered; prescribe standards relating to the use of an electronic seal and signature; clarify criteria for approval of fictitious and corporate names that use variations of professional titles; eliminate unnecessary administrative requirements; and make editorial changes. Statutory Authority: Section 4 of the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law (63 P. S. § 151). Expected Spring 2009, as Proposed. Contact Terrie Kocher (717) 783-7049 for more information.

Legislative Activity

HB 1280 RE: Amends PA Municipalities Planning Code (by Rep. Robert L. Freeman et al)

Amends PA Municipalities Planning Code further defining "traditional neighborhood development"; further providing for grants of power to municipalities by adding that a zoning ordinance or amendment may authorize and provide for traditional neighborhood development, for standards and conditions for traditional neighborhood development designations and for manuals of written and graphic design guidelines; providing for subdivision and land development ordinance provisions applicable to traditional neighborhood development, further providing for time limitations, for procedure to obtain preliminary opinion and for implementation agreements.

Rereferred to Senate Appropriations, 7/2/2008

HB 2113 RE: Industrialized/Commercial Modular Building (by Rep. Marc Gergely, et al)

Amends the Industrialized Housing Act adding a definition for "industrialized/commercial modular building". Additionally, the department is authorized to enter into a multistate agreement for the purpose of regulating the construction of components of industrialized/commercial modular buildings. The department would adopt regulations to administer the program that are based on the model rules and regulations promulgated by the interstate industrialized buildings commission. Components of industrialized/commercial modular buildings that are certified under the program would be deemed to meet the requirements of Pennsylvania Construction Code Act.

Read third time, passed House, 7/1/2008 (203-0)

Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Labor and Industry, 7/8/2008

HB 2539 RE: Flood Protection Measures (by Rep. Tim Seip, et al)

Amends the act entitled "An act authorizing the Department of Forests and Waters to provide for stream clearance and stream channel rectifications; to construct and maintain dams, reservoirs, lakes and other works and improvements for impounding flood waters, and conserving the water supply of the Commonwealth; and for creating additional recreational areas; to acquire by purchase, condemnation or otherwise, certain lands for such purposes; to construct and maintain flood forecasting and warning systems," by authorizing DEP to develop, implement and maintain nonstructural flood protection measures and stream channel environmental improvement projects; and to cooperate with counties, municipalities and municipal authorities to undertake the work. DEP may provide financial assistance to counties, municipalities and municipal authorities for these purposes. Prior to providing the assistance, DEP must have approved the plans and specifications of the project, and the municipality, county or authority must satisfy the terms and conditions of any agreement.

Laid on the table, 7/4/2008

HB 2546 RE: Flood Control Law (by Rep. Scott Conklin, et al)

Amends the Flood Control Law further providing for purpose of act; adding definitions; further providing for plans, for proceedings, for powers and duties of the Department of Environmental Protection, for eminent domain, for flood control works and for financing; and making editorial changes. The bill removes references to the Water and Power Resources Board and replaces them with the Department of Environmental Protection and makes numerous other editorial changes.

Laid on the table, 7/4/2008

HB 2644 RE: Amends the Underground Utility Line Protection Law (by Rep. Joseph Preston, Jr. et al)

Amends the Underground Utility Line Protection Law providing for duties of facility owners by adding that a facility owner may identify the location of a known facility connected to its facilities, but not owned or operated by the facility owner, as a helpful guide to the excavator or owner.

Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure, 7/8/2008

SB 2 RE: H2O PA Act (by Sen. Jane Earll, et al)

Provides for the allocation of all money in the Pennsylvania Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund not previously allocated to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for distribution for water or sewer projects, storm water projects, flood control projects and high hazard dam projects. For a ten-year period beginning with the initial deposits, no loans or grants shall be distributed for any project located in a city or county of the first or second class (Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County). The authority would incur indebtedness of up to \$750 million to fund the projects. The bill provides for distribution of funds, project review, and requires an annual report to the General Assembly.

Approved by the Governor, 7/9/2008. Act No. 63 of 2008

SB 903 RE: Openness in Consulting Contracts (by Sen. Jane Orie et al)

Amends Title 62 (Procurement) by adding a chapter creating the Openness in Consulting Contracts Act. Under the act, no agency of the Commonwealth government may contract with any individual or business who is not an employee of such entity to provide legal, bond or management consulting services, unless the contracting meets the disclosure and other requirements of this chapter or is opened up to competitive bidding pursuant to this title. The bill also adds that all individuals and businesses that perform work for State government under this chapter would be required to report their campaign contributions as one condition of receiving future consulting contracts. All information as to criteria, contracts awarded and contributions would be made available for public inspection on the Internet. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Attorney General may not delegate its responsibility for form and legality review with regard to contracts involving consulting services. The bill makes a repeal related to form and legality review of consulting contracts.

Read third time, passed Senate, 7/2/2008 (50-0)

SB 1449 RE: Agricultural Nutrient Reduction Program (by Sen. Roger A. Madigan et al)

The Fair Share Nutrient Reduction Assistance Program for Farmers Act establishes the Agricultural Nutrient Reduction Program to provide financial assistance in the form of single-year or multiyear grants or tax credits for agricultural nutrient and sediment reduction projects and to provide tax credits for legacy sediment remediation projects in PA. \$10,000,000 would annually be deposited in the Conservation District Fund. For fiscal years 2008-2009 through and including fiscal year 2012-2013, a nonlapsing appropriation of \$15,000,000 annually would be made to the commission for the purpose of awarding grants to farmers for agricultural nutrient and sediment reduction projects. Grants to be provided by the commission for any agricultural nutrient and sediment reduction project may not exceed 50% of the cost of the project, except that no more than \$150,000 in total grants may be awarded to a single agricultural operation.

Laid on the table, 7/1/2008

The House and Senate are in recess until fall.

Copies of all bills of interest are available from the PSPE office, or they can be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/BI/billroom.htm>. ■

2008 SENATE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE

The Senate has announced the following remaining session days for the 2007-08 session.

September 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24

October 1, 2, 6, 7

2008 House FALL SESSION SCHEDULE

September 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24

October 6, 7, 8

November 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25

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"Risky" continued from p. 5

think that they need to have at least a glimpse of the process. That way, they know what they're paying up for.

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I'm a little slower now (and a little wider), but I still love to climb. Plus, I have learned that, if you don't climb your value mountain, you're in a risky business. ■

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A well-established, Lehigh Valley home inspection company with excellent reputation is available for purchase. Included is 3-4 months of free on-the-job training. This on-going, profitable business includes computer files with templates for reports, as well as structural calculation forms for the most common structural calculations. Other services provided include Radon Testing & Pest Inspection/Certification. Registered Professional Engineers in Pennsylvania require no additional credentials to conduct home inspections. This is an ideal business to supplement a small engineering firm's workload or for a semi-retired PE. The Website for this business is: www.labprohomeinspection.com.

If interested, call 610-662-2387 for confidential discussions

Franchise Costs:

Franchise	Liquid Capital Required	Total Investment
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The Home Team	\$80,000	\$30,000 to \$80,000
House Master	\$25,000	\$40,000 to \$70,000
Pro Site Property Inspections	\$11,000	\$15,000 to \$25,000
Inspect it 1st	\$60,000	\$37,000 to \$60,000

2008

September 13 MATHCOUNTS Coordinators Meeting
Harrisburg, PA

October 2 - 4 NSPE Northeast Region Meeting
Portland, ME

2009

January 24 PSPE Board of Directors
Pittsburgh PA

March 21 Pennsylvania MATHCOUNTS
Wyndham Harrisburg-Hershey

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password: davinci*

A Guide to Enhancing Professional Development: From College Student to Company Principal (PDF)

This guide will assist young and seasoned engineers alike in finding resources to be successful in today's engineering world. Prepared by NSPE-PEPP's Young Engineer Advisory Council.

Engineers' Creed wallet version

EWeek Programs How to Participate

Future Directions Task Force Reports

Leader Orientation Guide

Legal Responsibilities: A Guide for NSPE and State Society Officers and Directors (Microsoft PowerPoint file)

Licensed Member and Member **Use of NSPE Logo**

Under NSPE guidelines, those who fall under NSPE's "Licensed Member" and "Member" categories are encouraged to use the NSPE logo on personal and business stationery and business cards.

Officer Backgrounder: Highlights Presentation

Officer Backgrounder: NSPE Products, Services, Initiatives PowerPoint presentation (comprehensive information to choose from); 20-Minute Highlights Presentation.

NSPE Board Meeting Agenda

NSPE Board Meeting Minutes

NSPE Committees, Task Forces, and Advisory Groups

NSPE Executive Meeting Minutes

NSPE Graphic Design Guide

NSPE House of Delegates Minutes and Agendas

NSPE National Officer and Staff Visits to State Societies

NSPE Policy Manual

NSPE Reseller's Agreement

Increase your state's **non-dues revenue** by reselling NSPE-produced publications

Reports from the Regional **Vice Presidents State and Chapter Activities Task Force**

Society Leadership Orientation Program

Speaker Database: This list comprises speakers who have presented at recent NSPE meetings and we encourage states to contribute to this list. Many of the speakers will present for minimal fees or travel expenses.

State and Chapter Leader Idea Exchange

Strategies For Member Retention and Attraction: Suggested strategies for retaining and growing NSPE membership, based on best practices among NSPE state societies and chapters. While developed from the young engineer's perspective, it's applicable to all facets of NSPE. Prepared by NSPE-PEPP's Young Engineer Advisory Council.

Successful NSPE **press placements** on licensure, ethics, and the merits of PEs

National Leader Resources

National Leader Handbook

House of Delegates Orientation Web Seminar

The NSPE House of Delegates 2008 Orientation Web seminar took place on June 27. By participating in the orientation, we believe you will be better equipped to navigate through the NSPE leadership process and maximize the benefits you will receive from this important volunteer activity! If you attended a session last year, please view the updated session, as there have been changes this past year.

Attachment: [Parliamentary Procedure Primer](#)

Web Seminars:

- Leading Change is a video led by John B. Zumwalt, P.E., Chairman and CEO, The PBSJ Corporation.
- Membership Recruitment and Retention for State and Chapters
- Volunteer Leader Orientation shares information on roles and responsibilities of NSPE leadership positions.

State and Chapter Leader Resources

Chapter Leader Handbook

- Appendix A: Chapter Activity Suggestions
Ideas shared by state and chapter leaders to help improve your chapter meetings and outings and thereby increase attendance and member satisfaction.
- Appendix B: Chapter Governance Summary of Best Practices
- Appendix C: A Year in the Life of a Chapter President, By I. M. Newbee, P.E., an easy-to-read document that complements the summary of best practices for chapter officers
- State Leader Handbook
- Appendix C: NSPE State Model Bylaws and Operating Procedures
- Appendix D: NSPE Chapter Model Bylaws and Operating Procedures
- Appendix E: State Society Officer Descriptions
- Appendix F: Leadership Qualities
- Appendix G: NSPE Officer Installation Ceremony
- Appendix H: Roberts Rules of Order Overview
- Appendix I: Meeting Planning
Includes: "Meeting Logistics Checklist" and "Putting on a Welcome Meeting" to help provide suggestions for setting up a successful event.
- Appendix J: Identify Great Grassroots Activities
A form for chapters, states, and other local NSPE entities to report successful activities that can be used as models for others.
- Appendix K: Ten Tips for a Successful Leadership Year
- Appendix L: Requesting Direct Deposit
- Appendix M: Finance
Includes: How to Unify Dues at the State Level, Best Practices, How to Create State and Chapter Leadership Buy-In, and Implementation Program.

Templates for State and Chapter Functions

2008 PSPE PAC Sponsor Recognition

Many thanks to the following individuals who contribute to the PSPE Political Action Committee fund. The PAC fund allows PSPE lobbyists to influence bills on behalf of PSPE members. PSPE is very active at the Pennsylvania state capitol. Each session we monitor legislation that could impact PSPE members in their profession. Your contributions are critical as PSPE affects bills such as those found in the article "On Capitol Hill."

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