

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 585 WORCESTER, PA 19490-0585



THE COMPASS Volume 53. Number 1. September 2018



President's Message By Kevin Killoran, PE

Welcome!! I am very excited to again serve as the Valley Forge Chapter's President for the 2018-2019 term. It was great to meet so many members last term ... hope to meet some more of you this term! Many thanks to the Chapter Board members for their continued involvement in the Chapter.

This year the Chapter plans to build upon our success from last year where we hosted several membership events at various locations throughout the Chester and Montgomery County area including three events with technical presentation and PDH credits. The Chapter again hosted a MathCOUNTS competition, served as judges at two science fairs where the Chapter awarded seven prizes for engineering related topics, and awarded scholarships to three students planning to attend Drexel and Temple Universities starting in Fall 2018. The Chapter's final event was an awards dinner to acknowledge the achievements of the students from MathCOUNTS, the science fairs and our scholarship program.

The Chapter looks forward to hosting a number of membership meetings this year, including two events scheduled for this Fall. The Chapter's Annual "Day at the Races" will be held at PARX race track on Sunday, October 14th. This year's event is the 25th anniversary! Many thanks to Harve Hnatiuk, PE, F.NSPE, for his efforts in arranging this yearly event!!

Also planned for this fall is a membership meeting with the student chapter of Villanova University the week of October 22nd. I encourage you to attend this dinner meeting as the interaction with the students is beneficial to both students and Chapter members, and the students' enthusiasm for engineering is contagious.

I must also congratulate VFC Past-President Joe Maida ('83-84 & '89-90) who was recently named the 2018 PSPE Engineer of the Year! A great honor for a longtime VFC member and former fellow VFC officer.

We invite all interested members, or member companies, to consider presenting a technical topic at a future meeting. This is a great opportunity to be involved with the Chapter and gain exposure for yourself and your company. If you are interested in speaking at an upcoming event, please contact the Chapter at vfc.pspe@gmail.com. The Chapter can assist with the venue and food arrangements.

Interested in joining the Board? Lucky for you as we have one vacancy for a Chapter Director position and encourage all members to consider filling this open position. The Board meets monthly at 6 PM and adjourns for the summer. Please contact me at vfc.pspe@gmail.com if you have any questions or interest and I will be glad to answer any questions you have.

I look forward to serving this term and hopefully I will have the opportunity to meet more of you face-to-face at upcoming Chapter events. Happy Engineering!

Kevin Killoran, PE



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Editor's Notes

By Kurt Leininger, PE

I'm happy to have the opportunity to edit your Valley Forge Chapter newsletter once again. During my term as VFC President 15 years ago, this was one of my most enjoyable tasks. Most engineers don't especially like to write, but I've always been an "odd-man-out" on that score.

Even though we neglected our newsletter last year, I think we made up for it with our annual MathCOUNTS and science fair events, three college scholarships and seven science fair awards, and three excellent dinner meetings:

- December 12, 2017: Presentation on ASTM Standards and Standard Developments by ASTM International, at Wegmans in Malvern.
- January 23, 2018: Presentations by SEPTA on a future King of Prussia high-speed rail terminus & SEPTA's Capital Construction Plan, at Crown Plaza in King of Prussia.
- March 15, 2018: Presentation by Highland Tank on design principals for rainwater harvesting and storm water treatment, at Phil's Tavern in Blue Bell (joint dinner meeting with the Bucks County Chapter).

I credit Kevin for arranging all of our meetings, each of which was very well attended. We finished the year with a "Meet & Greet" happy hour at Conshohocken Brewery in Bridgeport in April, and finally the annual Awards Dinner in May (see below).

Finally, as your VFC Secretary, I'll be glad to send our Board meeting minutes to any members who are interested. I can send a 20-page file of all ten Board minutes from August 2017 to May 2018, if you want to read all the details (what engineer wouldn't?). Also feel free to send any articles or news items you consider worthy of including in this newsletter. You can contact me at kvleininger@icloud.com, or call or text me at 610-996-2003.

May 2018 Awards Dinner

Our Chapter was again honored to have selected three students for the scholarship awards program. The program is for deserving high school graduates who intend to pursue engineering degrees at Drexel or Temple. Each student received a \$200 award from the Chapter and their selected university provided a four or five year scholarship. This year's awardees were:

Jane Truong Drexel University (5 year scholarship of \$5,000 per year, \$25,000 total)
 Kianna Ly Drexel University (5 year scholarship of \$5,000 per year, \$25,000 total)
 Thomas Baylouny Temple University (4 year scholarship of \$2,000 per year, \$8,000 total)

In addition to the scholarship winners, all winners and coaches of the MathCOUNTS Competition and Science Fairs were invited to the May Awards Dinner. The casual atmosphere and camaraderie between current and future engineers were enjoyed by all. The dinner was well attended with over 30 guest including students, parents and Board members.



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(Above is a view of our May 2018 Award Dinner at Bertucci's in Plymouth Meeting. Attending were our annual Scholarship awardees, the victorious MathCOUNTS students, and award recipients from the Montgomery County and Delaware Valley Science Fairs.)

2018 MathCOUNTS Competition

Congratulations to the MathCOUNTS teams/individuals that competed in the State Competition.

Sandy Run Middle School from the Valley Forge Chapter and Charles Boehm Middle School from the Bucks Chapter advanced beyond our local competition which was held this past February, and Peter Liu (Sandy Run Middle School – VFC), Vincent Zhang (Wissahickon Middle School – VFC) and Forest Ho-Chen (Pennwood Middle School – Bucks), were some of our top competitors/scorers from the state level competition held in March. Peter Liu did so well that he advanced to the National Competition and placed in the top 50. Great Job and many thanks to all those involved. Without your support and great efforts, competitions like this could not happen.

- Dan Humes, VFC MathCOUNTS Coordinator



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2018-19 Valley Forge Chapter Board

Below are your Valley Forge Chapter officers and directors for 2018-19. You can contact any of us at vfc.pspe@gmail.com with suggestions for a dinner topic, a column in the Compass, or any other issues relevant to our work and professional activities.

2018-19 Valley Forge Chapter Officers & Board of Directors

<u>POSITION</u>		<u>NAME</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>		
•	President	Kevin Killoran, PE	The Boeing Company, Philadelphia		
•	President-Elect	Ben Foster, PE	ISS Management, Ambler		
•	Vice-President	Dan Humes, PE	VanCleef Engineering Assoc, Doylestown		
•	Treasurer	Jim Thompson, PE	Retired		
•	Secretary	Kurt Leininger, PE	Retired		
•	State Director &	Tony Dougherty, PE	Traffic Planning & Design, Pottstown		
•	Alt State Director	Paul Dugan, PE	Millennium Engineering, P.C., Malvern		
•	Chapter Director	Randy Cleaver, PE	RPC Engineering, West Chester		
•	Chapter Director	Mike Fischer, PE	Millennium Engineering, P.C., Malvern		
•	Chapter Director	Tom Hoenninger, PE	Power Delivery Systems, Newark, DE		
•	Chapter Director	Lindsay Musselman, PE	Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Ft Washington		
•	Chapter Director	Mike Kissinger, PE	Pennoni, West Chester		
•	Chapter Director	(vacant)			



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PSPE News

Our State Director, Tony Dougherty, reported on news from PSPE at our summer planning meeting which took place in August. The following are of interest at this time.

- PSPE license plates with the PSPE logo can be purchased for your vehicle. Additional information can be found at https://www.pspe.org/store/pe-license-plates/.
- The PSPE political action committee (PAC) is seeking donations, partly to support efforts to continue to protect the PE license from proposals around the country (and in PA) to relax or delete licensure requirements for certain professions (including engineers). See attached letter from PSPE PAC Chair John Nawn for additional information.
- Susan Best, PE, remains as the PSPE Southeast Region Vice-President.

News Item of the Month

Hope you all get a charge to your "mental batteries" from this story:

 $\frac{https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/here-s-what-future-mars-lunar-space-colonies-could-look-ncna889341}{$





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Essay of the Month

The Other Language: Non-verbal

By: Anne Weisbord

When people write on their resumes, "excellent communication skills," I wonder exactly what it means. Does it mean that they speak and write well, or does it mean that they are clear and appropriate at giving and receiving those non-word signals that are called nonverbal language?

Nonverbal communication is our body language: our facial expressions, eye contact, posture, gestures, and spatial distance. It is also our tone of voice. It can be different in different cultures, and it speaks volumes. In fact, it speaks louder than the spoken word. People will believe what they see before they believe what they hear. With nonverbal messages, you can enhance relationships and build trust more easily with clients, peers, and other stakeholders. You can also damage those relationships unintentionally if you are not sensitive to how they might be received.

Our eyebrows and other facial expressions express our emotions. A smile, of course, is the most engaging. It is probably the best way to connect with others. However, imagine yourself sitting in a meeting, and you knit your eyebrows together and frown. Without saying a word, you have sent the very clear message that you are not happy with the way things are going. If you think you are signaling that you are neutral, think again. You have given yourself away with your expressions.

In our culture, eye contact is powerful. It is a sign of credibility, attention, and interest. Think about someone with whom you interact who averts his/her eyes while talking to you. How do you feel about that person? True, it can be fake, but for the most part, the truth is in the eyes.

Your posture also is an indicator of confidence and interest. How do you feel when you are presenting to your manager, and that manager is slumped in a chair or trying to hold her head up while you talk? On the other hand, sitting steel straight up in your chair with your head help stiffly on your shoulders can signal inflexibility.

Hand gestures add emphasis to our words. They tell a story. For example, you might be talking about a project and showing with your hands a comparison in size. However, hand gestures can also signal other things. What do you think hands across your chest might be saying? Sure, it might be that you are cold, but it could also look like you are defensive. What about tapping your fingers on a desk? That looks like you are impatient. Even though you might not mean to send that message, inadvertently you are.

Spatial distance communicates, too. In our country, most people like 18-24 inches of space around them. Anything closer might be thought to be too intimate or aggressive.

What about your tone of voice? Simply by changing the inflection, the pitch, or the speed of your words, you can communication a myriad of emotions. Experiment with the following sentence to express confidence, boredom, and annoyance. "We can get this done by May."

In brief, "excellent communicator' should encompass nonverbal as well as verbal communication. Practice becoming aware of what you are conveying nonverbally, and be sensitive to the nonverbals of others.

(Anne Weisbord, president of Career Services Unlimited, has been a communications consultant for over 20 years. She has worked with professionals in a wide range of industries helping them become more compelling, confident, and articulate speakers. www.awlearningconsultants.com)



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Past-Presidents of VFC (1949 - Present)

Below is the complete list of Past-Presidents of VFC. If you "do the math" you'll see that 2019 will be our 70th anniversary of Valley Forge Chapter, which is quite a legacy to be proud of. (Perhaps a "gala" celebration is coming?)

2017-18: Kevin Killoran	1993-94: Bob Di Domizio	1970-71: Frank Chaplin	
2016-17: Mike Fischer	1992-93: Harve Hnatiuk	1969-70: Alfred King	
2015-16: Randy Cleaver	1991-92: Ken Creech	1968-69: John Pink	
2014-15: Dan Humes	1990-91: Don DeCleene	1967-68: Frank Martin	
2013-14: Mike Fischer	1989-90: Joe Maida	1966-67: Paul Zahn	
2012-13: Randy Cleaver	1988-89: Bookes Britcher	1965-66: Bill Guggenheim	
2011-12: Chad Camburn	1987-88: Stan Kemp	1964-65: George Russell	
2010-11: Kristin Norwood	1986-87: Dave Fleisher	1963-64: John Lilley	
2009-10: Karen O'Connell Danko	1985-86: Jim Carroll	1962-63: Dan Driscoll	
2008-09: Tony Dougherty	1984-85: John Timbario	1961-62: Edward Seiz	
2007-08: Tony Dougherty	1983-84: Joe Maida	1960-61: Malcolm Brown	
2006-07: Paul Dugan	1982-83: Ross Forman	1959-60: Andrew Betz	
2005-06: Rod Plourde	1981-82: Edgar Hendler	1958-59: Adolf Hopf	
2004-05: Mike W. Moore	1980-81: Art Luthy	1957-58: John Fridy	
2003-04: Kurt Leininger	1979-80: Jessee Ring	1956-57: Harold Curll	
2002-03: Frank Stanton	1978-79: Bob Freer	1955-56: Walt Bornemann	
2000-01: Ken Ede	1977-78: Fred Eidman	1954-55: Leroy Dangremond	
1999-2000: Tom Readinger	1976-77: Otto Gotzsche	1953-54: Leroy Dangremond	
1998-99: Brian Healy	1975-76: Alan Cohen	1952-53: Herbert Reed	
1997-98: John Groseck	1974-75: Gerald Everz	1951-52: Russ Greulich	
1996-97: Rabindra Mallik	1973-74: Edmund Haigler	1950-51: Tom Williams	
1995-96: Dan Caramanico	1972-73: Charles Crowley	1949-50: George Shaner	
1994-95: Rod Barnhart	1971-72: Fred Reichert	1948-49: George Greeby	
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With guidance from members, the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers works tirelessly to promote the engineer's viewpoint in public policy. Our advocacy protects the integrity of the PE license, and improves legislation and regulations by providing the engineer's perspective. Many issues before the State Legislature affect public safety. Whether it's an environmental regulation, a building code revision or a matter of professional practice, PSPE endeavors to provide the engineer's perspective.

PSPE speaks to legislators on issues directly affecting the licensed engineer. No other engineering society has consistent, reliable conversations with legislators representing the professional engineer.

A new legislative session has just begun and there is no shortage of issues. To name a few, PSPE will be working on:

- Refining the continuing education requirements to make them user friendly.
- Lobbying for increased public investment in infrastructure.
- · Promoting continued state support for math and engineering education initiatives
- Opposing proposals that would drive engineering jobs out of Pennsylvania such as levying a sales tax on engineering services.

Listing all of the issues on which PSPE lobbies would make this letter unbearably long. The point is that the Society's advocacy program is active and successful.

But, we need your help. Make a contribution to PSPE Political Action Committee (PAC). Your donation is used to support State House and Senate members who understand our issues and are helping. A well-funded PAC is essential to the success of our legislative program. All donations we make are to Pennsylvania elected officials.

PSPE continues to work for the advancement of the engineering profession on many fronts. We need your help to continue our work.

Sincerely.

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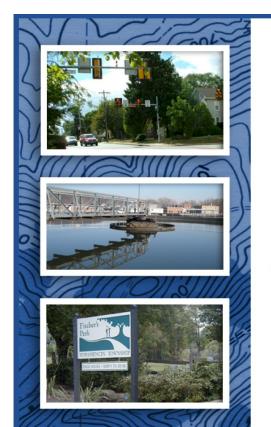
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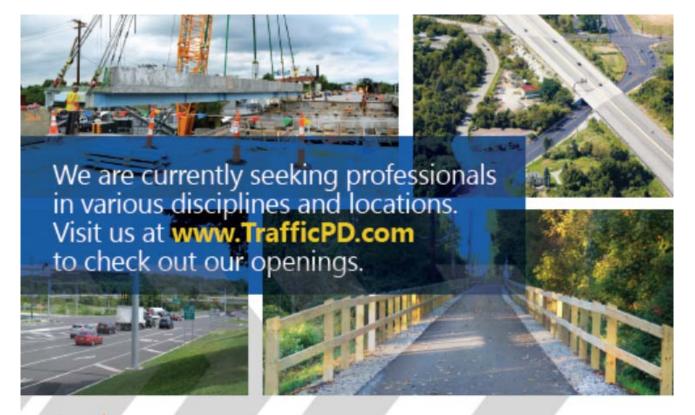
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