



PE TIMES

The Newsletter of the Capital District Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers

Capital District Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers

Volume 2003-2004, Issue 2

September 2003

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Presidents Message

By Anne Garrity, PE

The Board has been busy over the last few weeks and I am confident we are in good shape as we dive in for the year. We have spent a considerable effort in developing our 2003-2004 calendar which we hope will be both interesting and informative to you. Here is an overview of what is planned for the next few months ...



Anne Garrity, PE

- September 9, 2003 – 20th Annual Golf Tournament at the Town of Colonie Golf Course. Watch the October newsletter for acknowledgments and standings.

- October 2, 2003 – Business Card Exchange and Chapter Social at Fenders on Wolfe Road. This is a great opportunity to mix with members, non-members, and friends.

See the attached flyer for additional details.

- October 7, 2003 - Annual STEM Open House at Clough, Harbour & Associates' offices at Ill Winners Circle. More details are contained later in the newsletter.

- October 23, 2003 – Dinner Meeting with SAME featuring expert witness testimony.

- October 31st and November 1, 2003 – NYSSPE Fall Meeting

at the Marriott on Wolf Road.

- November 3rd and 4th – Transportation Symposium at the Century House. Watch for details in the October newsletter.

- November 20, 2003 – A/E Panel Discussion. See article and flyer for the details.

Programs planned for 2004 will mostly focus on Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) requirements, legislative activities, and education. Save the following dates and watch for more details:

- January 10, 2004 - Future Cities Competition at RPI

- January 15, 2004 - Chapter meeting with speaker to discuss CPC

- February 7, 2004 -

(Continued on page 2)

STEM needs You!!!

By Walter C. Waidelich, PE

STEM (Science, Technology & Mathematics, Inc.) is a volunteer nonprofit organization made up of members from the educational, business, and professional communities of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and

Schenectady counties. Annually, STEM produces a Directory of Volunteers, called Mentors, and the subjects they are willing to discuss with Kindergarten's to 12th graders. About two-thirds of the Mentors listed in the

Directory are PE's or younger engineers. We have science kits with lesson plans on different subjects for the use of our mentors or you are encouraged to develop a program of your own.

Our annual STEM Directory Distribution and Mentor Science Kits Review

(Continued on page 3)

Presidents Message

(Continued from page 1)

Chapter MathCounts Competition at GE's GRC in Niskayuna
 - February 22 to 28 - National E Week events and celebration
 - March 13, 2004 - State MathCounts competition at RPI
 - May 4, 2004 - Lobby Day in Albany

I would like to welcome James Dall, PE from the New York State Dormitory Authority to the Board. Jim accepted an appointment to the Board as a Director which resulted from a vacancy due to Jack Healy's ascension to 2nd Vice President. We're glad to have him aboard and active in the Chapter again.

The New York State Society of Professional Engineers will be holding its annual Fall Meeting this year on Friday, October 31st and Satur-

day, November 1st at the Marriott on Wolfe Road. The agenda is extensive and being finalized but will include forums such as a Legislative roundtable, a member needs focus group, CPC workshop, and course accreditation certifications, all followed by a reception and dinner on Friday night. Please contact Jennifer Miller at Headquarters (jamiller@nysspe.org) if you would like more information.

Have you noticed that last month's newsletter included an update on Professional Engineers in Government (PEG)? This month's edition includes an article on Professional Engineers in Education (PEE). There are five Practice Divisions in total: Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP), Professional Engineers in Industry (PEI), Professional Engineers in Construction (PEC), Professional Engineers in Education (PEE) and Profes-

sional Engineers in Government (PEG). My hope is that by learning more about the Practice Divisions, you will understand each of their focused interests and want to be more active in one (or any) that is near and dear to your heart. Saturday's portion of the Fall Meeting includes specific Practice Division meetings which you are encouraged to attend.

The New State York State Society of Professional Engineers has launched a Member-Get-A-Member campaign. This campaign encourages members to and acknowledges those who recruit new members to the Society. The flyer contained with the newsletter contains more specific information.

Over the next month or so a small but dedicated Committee will be finalizing updates to the **Chapter Database**. Your patience is requested as we

attempt to re-verify addresses - both email and snail mail. Please email revisions to your contact information to either myself at 518-689-2592 - garrri-tan@sysadmin.suny.edu, Monika Lowe at 518-453-8702 - mlowe@cha-llp.com, or Susan DeSimone at 518-689-2587 - desimons@sysadm.suny.edu.

We hope that some of the programs and events planned for this year are of interest to you. Please feel free to contact me at 518-689-2592 or garrri-tan@sysadm.suny.edu if you have any questions or would like to know more about how you can become more active.

Sincerely,

Anne

30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Upcoming Board Meetings

October 7, 7:30 am

at Spectra Engineering, PC

November 4, 7.30 am at the Century House

December 2, 7.30 am at

Expert Witness Testimony

By Keith F. Lashway, P.E.

On Thursday, October 23, 2003 there will be a joint dinner meeting with the Society of Military Engineers (SAME) and the CDCNYSSPE/AIA. It will be held at the Cannon Club at the Watervliet Ar-

senal from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. This program promises to be an interesting topic which will appeal to a broad spectrum of professionals.

Please direct RSVP's to me no later than October 17th by fax 518 292-5886 or email at [klash-](mailto:klashway@empire.state.ny.us)

way@empire.state.ny.us

A separate flier will be emailed with more details.

Expert Witness

(Continued from page 1)

Day will be on **Tuesday, October 7th from 3:30pm to 5:00pm at Clough, Harbour & Associates, LLP's** offices at Ill Winners Circle, Albany, New York (behind the Wolfe Road Marriott). The new 2003-2004 STEM Directory will be distributed free to all school-teachers in attendance. I am inviting all who would like to learn more about STEM and possibly become a Mentor to join us on October 7th and enjoy some light refreshments, meet some STEM Mentors, and review STEM's science kits which will be on display.

A/E Panel Discussion

By Christopher Motyl, PE

The Panel Discussion originally planned for last April has been rescheduled for the evening of Thursday, **November 20, 2003**, one week before Thanksgiving Day. Please mark your calendars and refer to the flyer for additional information.

I will moderate the panel discussion. Panelist will include individuals from Engineering – Private Practice, Engineering – Public Sector, Architect and Construction. College students and younger engineers are

encouraged to attend, as the topics will offer first hand perspectives of design and construction issues on projects.

Mark your calendars now for this informative Chapter meeting.

If you would like to serve on the panel (additional volunteers are needed to represent engineers from private practice and a contractor/construction manager) or need additional information, please contact me at 427-7200 or cleempe@aol.com.

Home Buyers Are Looking for PE's Expertise ...

By Anne Garrity, PE

The Capital District Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers receives several inquiries a month regarding home inspections. Perspective homebuyers are looking specifically for engineers or engineering firms who can assist them in evaluations. They have been referred to us either by the State Education Office or from NSPE State Headquarters and are consciously looking for licensed professionals rather than home inspectors. Their inquiries include aspects such as structural evaluations, building codes, water supply and sanitary disposal issues.

If you are interested in being included on a list that we may share, please contact me at garritytan@sysadm.suny.edu or call me at 518-689-2592.

Practice Division Spotlight ... PE's in Education

By Donald B. Aulenbach, PhD, PE, DEE

Professional Engineers in Education (PEE) includes all members who have an interest in education, not just those actively involved in teaching. We all are concerned with what is being taught in schools, colleges, and graduate schools, but with the impending requirements for continuing education certification there is further concern for educational materials that qualify for these requirements.

At the college level there is concern that the total number of credits for graduation is being diminished at the same time

that new materials are being added to programs. Not only are there new fields in engineering such as environmental, computer, etc., and new technologies such as lasers, GIS, GPS, nanotechnology, and biotechnology, but also there is greater demand for education in humanities, law, and the sciences. Numerous 5-year college programs have been initiated, only to fade out in a few years, primarily due to the added cost and the additional time. Until all schools agree upon the same requirements, these efforts are subject to fail.

Further, although there are many colleges in the Capital District, there are few teachers who are members of the PE Society, and even fewer who are active in PEE. It is very difficult to conduct a program with such a small representation and I hope you are willing to participate to whatever degree your schedule allows.

The impending requirements for CEC may generate new interest in PEE. As of now, the procedure for approval of courses, lectures, meetings, etc. is not clearly

*(Continued on page 4)*

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CPC Is On Our Doorstep

By Thomas McGrath, PE

spelled out. A means of reviewing these and announcing approval in a timely manner must be provided. This could involve an active PEE committee.

All members should realize their dependence on an adequate education, not only for their own accreditation, but also for an adequate education for future engineers.

Last year the Legislature passed legislation on Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) and the Governor signed it into law. Mandatory continuing education for professional engineers takes effect on January 1, 2004. Each licensed professional engineer shall be required under the law to register triennially with the Education Department to practice in the State of New York and shall comply with the

mandatory continuing education requirements of the law. During each triennial registration period an applicant for registration shall complete a minimum of thirty-six (36) hours of approved, acceptable continuing education. Certain exemptions do apply and they can be reviewed in the law which is posted in the Chapter's web site.

The NYSSPE CPC Committee is working

closely with the Practicing Institute in Engineering (PIE) in order to have a fully functional Continuing Education program to meet the needs of our members and other PEs, by the end of the year. PIE will be creating a library of accredited courses so that chapters have a source for planning offerings at meetings. The NYSSPE has a CPC program workshop planned for the Fall meeting to help Chapters

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Robert C. LaFleur John H. Shafer, P.E.

The displayed companies are advertising to help defer the cost of CDNYSSPE Newsletter Publication. This allows more funds to be used for other programs such as Mathcounts, CDNYSSPE Scholarship, etc. If your firm is not on this page and wants to advertise to further the programs our Chapter can financially support, contact Nadja Baur, Newsletter Editor at NBaur@SpectraEnv.com or call 845.454.9440. The Chapter thanks these companies for their generous support.

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plan and implement CPC programs on the Chapter level.

The Capital District Chapter's goal is to offer our members an opportunity to get credited hours of continuing education by attending regular

Chapter meetings. As we learn more on this subject and as a result of the Fall meeting workshop, we will keep you informed in the newsletter. Mark your calendar for **January 15, 2004**. That is the date for our January Chapter meeting and we have scheduled a speaker to discuss CPC.

New Member Welcome

By **Monika Lowe, IE**

The Capital District Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers would like to welcome the following new member to our Chapter:

Keith Menia from Vollmer Associates

Please join us in welcoming this new member to our Chapter!



You're Invited

To a

Business Card Exchange and Chapter Social

Hosted by:

The Capital District Chapter

Of

The New York State Society of Professional Engineers

At:

Fenders at the Holiday Inn
Wolf Road, Albany

When:

Thursday, October 2, 2003
5 to 7 PM



The New York State Society of Professional Engineers will have members in attendance from various disciplines of engineering, including local consulting firms, State and Local government agencies, and construction.

This will be a great opportunity to meet and network with Professional Engineers from the Capital Region as well as understand how NYSSPE promotes your profession.

Please contact Monika Lowe at 453-8702 if you have any questions.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

NYSSPE 2003-2004 Member-Get-A-Member Campaign

HELP YOUR COLLEAGUES REALIZE THE SAME CAREER ENHANCING BENEFITS YOU ALREADY ENJOY!!!

NYSSPE is growing – and **YOU** can help by recruiting new members in the 2003-2004 Member-Get-A-Member Campaign.

YOU already know the benefits of Membership...

- * Advocacy before the Legislature
- * Promotion of the profession's image
- * Networking Opportunities
- * Educational Opportunities
- * Leadership training

We are asking that **YOU** share your knowledge with colleagues by inviting them to join you as a member of *the only organization representing the interest of all engineering professionals.*

How to recruit members

- * Tell your colleagues your #1 reason for joining NYSSPE
- * Invite a colleague to a chapter event
- * Tell them to visit NSPE & NYSSPE websites: www.nspe.org or www.nysspe.org
- * Send NYSSPE a list of colleagues you would like to nominate for membership. We will send them a membership packet, with your name as a sponsor.

What's in it for you?

TOP RECRUITER (recruiting at least 6 new members above student grade)
*****FREE Membership for one year for NSPE/NYSSPE/Chapter dues*****

Recruit 5 new members

Best Buy gift certificate for \$100

Recruit 4 new members

Best Buy gift certificate for \$50

Recruit 3 new members

PE Logo Golf Shirt

Recruit 2 new members

NYSSPE Coffee Mug
A set of PE license plate frames

Recruit 1 new member

A set of PE license plate frames

To order membership applications & recruitment materials contact Jennifer A. Miller, Membership Coordinator at 518-283-7490 or email: jamiller@nysspe.org.

The 2003-2004 campaign runs July 1, 2003 through May 31, 2004

**NYSSPE CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER
PRESENTS
"BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PANEL DISCUSSION"**

When: November 20, 2003: Registration at 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:00, program at 7:15 pm

Where: Italian Community Center- Le Caravelle Ristorante

257 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany (near Crossgates)

Menu: Dinner selections are not yet finalized but will include choice between 3 entrees, salad, dessert, rolls, and coffee or tea. Price for dinner is estimated at \$25.00 with College students at discounted price of \$15. Please make your reservation by November 14th to Tom McGrath at 782-0882 or tmcgrath@spectraenv.com.

PANEL COMPOSITION: Panel will contain representatives from Architecture, Contracting or Construction Manager, Engineer from Private Practice, and Engineer from Public Sector.

MODERATOR: Christopher L. Motyl, PE

TOPICS

1. What should be included in the Contract Documents to assure a project is completed to the satisfaction of all parties with a vested interest?
2. At what point of the project do you find coordination issues to be most important and how does the type of project and schedule impact the quality of the workmanship?
3. What would be a reasonable method to calculate the fee for a project and is the cost of construction a good or bad gauge?
4. Should submittals and shop drawings be handled in a different manner depending on the item? Explain when a manufacturer's representative should be a part of the review process and what problems arise with substitutions.
5. What are the benefits of building commissioning and on what type of projects do you see more of a demand for this type of service?
6. Do drawing details contain adequate information for construction and has CAD made this easier for architects and engineers to standardize?

FORMAT (Up to 10 minutes for each question- moderator will keep track of time)

- Each member of the panel will be given a copy of the questions prior to the discussion.
- Each panel member will have the opportunity to respond first to one of the questions; the moderator will select a second member to provide a response.
- If time allows, other panelists may respond.
- After each question, audience participation will be permitted based on time.

This is a great opportunity for college graduating students in an engineering program to meet local practicing engineers, participate as well as listen to issues facing the engineering profession that you may soon become part of and learn about a professional organization that should become part of your career path. We look forward to meeting you.



We're on the web!
www.capdistpe.org

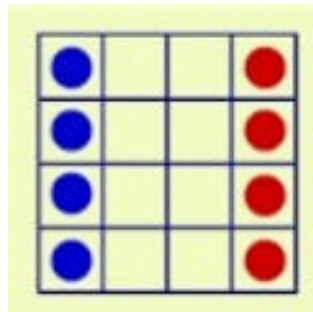
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Capital District Chapter
NYS Society of Professional Engineers
c/o Nadja Baur
59 Genoble Road
Montville, NJ 07045

Capital District Chapter of the New York
State Society of Professional Engineers

Puzzle

There are 4 red and blue chips in a 16-square board. Can you rearrange them in such a way that no two chips of the same color will be in the same row horizontally, vertically, or diagonally?



Solution: Taking out the corners and middle positions, there are 8 positions left. You can place one red and one blue on each side.