



CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER

The New York State Society of Professional Engineers, Inc.

PE TIMES NEWSLETTER

March 2007

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President's Message

By Jack C. Healy, P.E

I hope everyone had a chance to attend the Engineer Week activities. Although Mother Nature played a trick on us by delivering the biggest storm of the year, the event was well attended and a great success. Many thanks to all the helped with organizing the event and especially Jenifer Miller from Headquarters, John Dergosists, Heather Linsk, Sal Ervolina, and Keith Lashway. Also, I want to thank those of you who responded to my plea for seminars when we were trying to fill out the schedule!

Since our last newsletter, we have had three chapter meetings. In November, Howard Goebel spoke to us on the June floods and their impact on the NYS Canals. In December, we had a joint holiday party with AIA and CSI, and we hope this is the beginning of a new tradition. In January we had a joint meeting with SAME, Stephanie Linloff from American Rivers presented on Dam removal and lessons learned.

We have three more chapter meetings on the schedule; hopefully one will include a field trip. The topics are still being

finalized and you will be notified as the meeting dates approach. The preliminary schedule is on the website at <http://www.capdistpe.org>. If you have not been to a chapter event in a while, block out one of the upcoming dates and meet your fellow professionals. The website is continuously updated and if you have not seen it in a while, please take a few minutes and visit it. The board meeting dates are also listed on the schedule. These meetings are open for you to attend and are a great way to learn about chapter activities. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Several chapter sponsored outreach activities have been completed. These include the mathcounts competition, future city competition, and the chapter scholarships. More information on all of these is provided later in the newsletter.

John Steele, P.E. has agreed to take one of the two vacant Director's positions. John has been a member since 2003 and has attended several board and chapter meetings. Thank you John for stepping forward.

Should you feel to be more active, we encourage you to do so. There is still one Director's position open and we would welcome anyone interested in fulfilling the position. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at jhealy@ryanbiggs.com.

New Member Welcome!

By Monika King, P.E.

The Capital District Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers would like to welcome the following newest members to our Chapter (listed by join date):

- Mr. Thomas H. Boekeloo, P.E.
- Mr. William Hennessy, P.E.
- Mr. John J. Robson, P.E.
- Mr. Mark L. Kestner Jr., P.E.
- Mr. Robert V. Tumielewicz, P.E.

Please join us in welcoming these new members!

How to Join

If you have any questions about our chapter or about our membership process, please contact our Membership Chair, Monika King at mking@townofbethlehem.org or call her at (518) 522-7681.

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Mathcounts

By Salvatore W. Ervolina, PE

The Capital District Chapter's Mathcounts Competition was held on Saturday February 3, 2007 at the General Electric (GE) Global Research Facility in Niskayuna. GE once again generously agreed to host the chapter competition at their renovated Niskayuna facility. This year we received a tremendous response from area schools, with 25 schools registering for the Chapter Competition

from Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties. Besides our core group of usual participants, this year we have seen a number of local schools registering for Mathcounts for the first time, and a return of some former participants. Combining a four person team from each school, and up to four additional individuals per school, over 150 students participated in the Chapter Competition this year, making it one of the Chapter's largest school turnouts ever. This was also one of the biggest Chapter Competitions in the entire State. I want to thank all the volunteers that contributed their time and effort to once again make the competition a success. The event was organized by the Capital District Chapter of the NYS Society of Professional Engineers in conjunction with GE Volunteers.

Mathcounts is a nationwide program designed to improve math skills among U.S. students. The competition targets middle school students, who are at a crucial stage in developing and sustaining math interest and ability. Teachers and students have been preparing for the competition since the fall. Students compete individually and as teams in written and fast-paced oral matches. Subjects include algebra, probability, statistics and geometry.

The competition will began at 9:00 a.m., the final Countdown Round Competition was held at 1:00 p.m. and awards were presented at 2:00 p.m. Additionally, we heard talks from Andrew Ardito, who placed second in the National Mathcounts Competition and Dr. Roger Hoerl, head of the Applied Statistics Lab at GE. The top three schools were the Home Educators Enrichment Group, the Farnsworth Middle School and the Bethlehem Central Middle School. The top five individuals were Schuyler Smith, Matthew

Babbit (both from the Home Educators Enrichment Group), Felix Sun (Acadia Middle School), Austin Mayron (Bethlehem Central Middle School) and Jason Xu (Van Antwerp Middle School).

The top three teams listed above, and the top two individuals not on the top three teams, will advance to the State Mathcounts Competition finals at the RPI campus in Troy on March 10, 2007. Final preparations are being made to ensure that this year's competition will rival the successes experienced in previous years. This is an extremely rewarding activity and we welcome all volunteers willing to help out during the competition. Additional scorers will be especially welcomed due to the large school participation.

As many of you are aware, the celebration is a collaborative effort involving volunteers from the PE Society and several area technical societies. This year's event was held at the Marriott on Wolf Road on Thursday February 15th, and Friday, February 16th. It included the two lunches, the Order of the Engineer ceremony, seminars, future cities, and the bridge competition. There were over 70 seminars with a wide variety of topics for several of the engineering disciplines. Most seminars were accredited for continuing education.

Continuing education credits were available to registered attendees - otherwise the programs were free. Over four hundred participants registered, breaking yet another attendance record! Engineers Week is a not for profit volunteer effort...proceeds from the registrations are donated to fund outreach efforts such as mathcounts, support engineering education, and to provide student scholarships.


MANY THANKS to the presenters, moderators, sponsors, advertisers, and volunteers for their commitment for making this year's event a success!!! The Engineer Week Steering Committee needs your help for planning next year's event. You can participate several different ways to whatever level of effort you are comfortable with...don't be afraid to volunteer! Please email Jenifer Miller at jamiller@nysspe.org for info.

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Engineers Week Update

By Jack C. Healy, P.E

This years Capital District Engineers Week Celebration was a great success! Although mother nature decided to dump 2 feet of snow on "Engineers Week Eve" (Wednesday), the show still went on with a wonderful turnout. Only five sessions were cancelled due to the weather and presenter travel issues; most attendees found other relevant seminars as a substitute.

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Nominations Needed!

By James J. Kuhn, PE

The Capital District Chapter is currently seeking nominations from its members and member firms for achievements and/or services of professional engineers. This is a great opportunity to recognize the contributions our profession makes to our communities.

We are taking nominations for the following categories:

- Engineer of the Year
- Young Engineer of the Year
- Citizen of the Year
- Outstanding PE Manager
- Contribution to Education
- Meritorious Service
- Outstanding Engineering Achievement
- Government Engineer the Year
- Industry Professional Development Award

Please take a moment and complete the attached nomination form. We are confident that you can find a couple of members or a project that is worthy of recognition. Please see the nomination form for more information or contact Jim Kuhn at 518/383-9144 or jkuhn@atlantictesting.com.

Nominations are due by April 27, 2007.



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**The New York State Society of
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**CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER
AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

DUE BY April 27, 2007

INDICATE AWARD FOR WHICH THIS NOMINATION IS MADE:

- ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
- YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
- CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
- OUTSTANDING PE MANAGER
- CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION
- MERITORIOUS SERVICE
- OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT
- GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
- INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

*CANDIDATE: _____

*ADDRESS: _____

Email: _____

DATE COMPLETED: _____

**must be filled out*

Describe the specific contribution(s) you feel warrant(s) this award being given to the proposed candidate (use extra pages as necessary).

SPONSOR:

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

RETURN FORM TO: ATL

Attn: Jim Kuhn

jkuhn@atlantictesting.com

22 Corporate Drive
Clifton Park, NY 12065

or Fax to: 518-383-9144

Email to:

