

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 4

December 2003

Presidents Message

By Anne Garrity, PE

I would like to start off this month's message by wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season! I hope everyone gets a chance to relax with family and friends.

With the New Year also comes mandatory continuing education for NYS licensed professional engineers and surveyors (Section 7211 of Article 145 of the Education Law). This goes into effect January 1, 2004. Tom McGrath, PE, is chair of the Chapter's CPC Committee and has provided updates over the past few issues of this newsletter. Our January 15, 2004 meeting will focus on bringing the membership and colleagues up to date on the CPC requirements, how courses can be approved, and other related issues. Please try and attend.

I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge two Chapter members on nominations they received at our recent State meeting.

Kudos to Wally Waidelich, PE, on his nomination as NSPE Fellow Member. This Lifetime Nomination acknowledges licensed members who demon-

strate exemplary service to the profession, the Society, and the community. Wally has been an active member in the Chapter and State for years. In addition, he serves as NYSSPE Headquarters Liaison and is active in STEM.



Congratulations to Keith Lashway, PE, on his nomination as Northeast Region Vice President. This is a State level position where Keith will act as liaison between the local Chapters and the Executive Committee. Keith is a past president of Capital District and TriCounty Chapters and currently serves as Assistant Treasurer at the State level.

The upcoming issue of the State's *NYPE* magazine will contain bios and ballots for the full slate of officers and other elected positions. I'd also like to

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CPC ... It's the Law!

By Thomas McGrath, PE

At the recent NYSSPE Fall Conference held October 31st and November 1st, CPC was and will continue to be a major topic for the upcoming year. Through the Practicing Institute of Engineering (PIE) the NYSSPE will work with other technical societies, local chapters, and employers to create a network for continuing education, both locally and regionally.

It is the goal of the NYSSPE and the Capital District Chapter to have opportunities at State and Chapter meetings so that members can fulfill the requirements by attending regular meetings.

All continuing education programs must be accredited based on their compliance with the Education Law.

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Jack C. Healy, PE
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Monika Lowe, IE

Salvatore Ervolina, PE

Jim Galarneau, PE

Immediate Past President

Lawrence J. O'Connor, PE, LS

Past President

Presidents Message

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thank David Knowles, PE, for his years of service to the Chapter and the State. David has served as our Regional VP for many years but decided not to accept a State level nomination at this time.

On November 20th the Capital District Chapter held a panel discussion of construction documents. We'd like to thank our panelists – CDCNYSSPE members Richard Bovee, PE, Keith Lashway, PE, and Andy Clemente, PE, as well as Robert Woods, AIA, for their professional and enthusiastic participation. Thanks also to Chris Motyl, PE, who moderated the discussion and Tom McGrath, PE, who coordinated the affair. We had close to 40 in attendance, including students from Union and RPI. It was a very informative discussion with some excellent dialog!

As a reminder ... The 2004 Engineers Week Celebration will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2004

at the Albany Marriott on Wolf Road in Colonie. The slate of seminars and presentations is coming together but there are still many tracts to fill and we will need your help to make that happen. If you know anybody who can help with topics, seminars or the like, please contact Jennifer Miller, EWeek Coordinator at 518-283-7490 or email jamil-ler@nysspe.org.

As always, if you are interested in participating in Chapter activities, have ideas on how we can improve services for you, or have any questions please feel free to contact me or any of the other Officers or Directors.

Thank you and HAPPY HOLI DAYS!

Sincerely,

Anne Garrity



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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

Upcoming Events 2004

Board Meeting, January 6,
7:30 am at Spectra Engineering, PC

Future Cities, January 10, at
RPI Student Union

Chapter Meeting, January
15, CPC Info Evening

Board Meeting, February 3,
7:30 am at Spectra Engineering, PC

2003-2004 MathCounts Competition Update

By *Sal Ervolina, P.E.*

The Capital District Chapter's Math Counts competition will be held on Saturday February 7, 2004 at the General Electric (GE) facility in Niskayuna. GE is in the process of completing renovations to their Niskayuna facility and we have been assured that it will be available to host the Chapter competition. School registrations have been coming in steadily and we once again expect a good turn out on competition day. The deadline for school registration is December 12, 2003.

This year we will once again need volunteers. If you volunteered last year, you will be contacted if we do not hear from you first. Susan DeSimone, PE of our Chapter is assisting in volunteer recruitment. She can be reached at desimons@sysadm.suny.edu at 518-689-2587. This is an extremely rewarding activity and we welcome all volunteers willing to help out.

I am serving as this year's Math Counts Coordinator for the Capital District Chapter and can be reached at

(518) 402-9705 or

sxervoli@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

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To get programs accredited they must be submitted to accreditors who will review the proposed program. The material submitted for review must be thorough in its description of the contents of the program and should describe the technical content of the proposed program so that the reviewer has adequate information to evaluate the program.

Chapter President Anne Garrity has formed a CPC committee for the Capital District Chapter, chaired by myself. The committee's goals are to: get committee members certified as program evaluators; identify potential CPC sources; supply course information; accredit and document courses; provide certificates and keep records.

Mark **January 15, 2004** on your calendar. That is the date for our January Chapter Meeting. The speaker at that meeting will be Neal Illenberg, PE. Neal is the Secretary of PIE, and together with Tom Mitchell, PE, NYSSPE President, has been heading up the CPC program at the state level. Neal

and Tom are presently the two persons in the State Society of Professional Engineers that are reviewing and accrediting programs for continuing education credit. Neal will join us for dinner and then will speak on CPC and what we have to do to stay current on this subject. There will not be any credits given for this meeting, however the Chapter's CPC Committee is working to have a program at our February meeting that will have CPC credits.

In related news, the PEPP meeting held during the Fall Conference PEPP authorized expenditure of up to \$2,000 for the purchase of CPC educational materials which will be submitted for accreditation to PIE and will be made available to PEPP members as accredited programs. We will keep you informed as we learn more on this subject. (PEPP is the Practice Division for Professional Engineers in Private Practice.)

In the meantime if you have any questions or would like to assist in this Chapter initiative, please feel free to contact me at tmcgrath@spectraenv.com.

Home Buyers Are Looking for PEs' Expertise ...

By Anne Garrity, PE

As President of the Capital District Chapter NYSSPE I receive several inquiries a month regarding home inspections and other requests from the public. Specifically, home owners or prospective home owners are looking for engineers or engineering firms who can assist them in evaluations and related issues. They have been referred to us either by the State Education Department or from NSPE State Headquarters and are specifically looking for licensed professionals rather than home inspectors. Their inquiries include aspects such as structural evaluations, mechanical and HVAC, building codes, water supply and sanitary disposal issues.

It is important that we are responsive to these inquiries. As engineers, we are often frustrated by others who attempt to represent themselves as engineers or are practicing the profession without the appropriate qualifications. It is an easy way to promote our profession and provide an added value to the Society. We would prefer not to refer the public blindly to individuals or firms who may or may not be interested in assisting them.

Accordingly I am trying to compile a database of interested professionals or firms. If you are interested in being included on a list that we may share, please contact me at garritan@sysadm.suny.edu or call me at 518-689-2592.



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by the award of appropriate continuing professional development credits.

The Practicing Institute of Engineering (P.I.E.) is an organization created by New York State Professional Engineers to support the programs and practices that assure continuing competency of the engineering profession. Accordingly, PIE was created to:

- 1 Offer support and endorse courses of instruction, lectures and seminars for members of the engineering profession
- 2 Review, accept and accredit courses offered to the professional engineering community.
- 3 Review, evaluate and accept the activities of Professional Engineers for professional development hours (PDH) as part of Continuing Professional Competency Program.

PDH Acceptance Program - PIE promotes the continuing professional development of engineering by the award of appropriate continuing professional development credits. It is important to note that the legislation which is to be effective January 1, 2004 is similar but not totally consistent with the NCEES Model Law for Continuing Professional Competency. The Model Law requires 45PDH over 3 years (NYS

SED 36), the Model Law allows participation in a professional and/or technical society as a form of CPC (NYS SED does not), the Model Law leaves the task of accepting professional development activities (seminars, conventions, workshops, etc.) and non-technical courses (ethics, communications, business skills, etc.) to the profession (NYS SED does not allow "soft courses" such as communications, leadership and business skills to qualify as CPC nor does it leave it to the profession to decide). Fortunately, the Professional Engineering profession was chartered by the NYS SED prior to the law to regulate its own CPC program. PIE is one of four organizations recognized by the New York State Department of Education (SED) as authorized to serve this function (the others are SED, NACET and AIA). PIE currently has procedures in place for the certification of courses offered for CPC continuing education units (CEU) and for the acceptance of Professional Development Hours (PDH) activities submitted by PE's for CPC credits. The cost of the service is free for PIE members, \$10.00 a submittal for NYSSPE members, and \$20.00 a submittal for NYS PE's (non-NYSSPE members).

The cost of PIE membership is only \$10.00 per year. Membership in PIE requires only a PE license, interest in the purposes and principles of the corporation, and payment of annual dues. For more information, please see www.pie-inc.org



Lobby Day Update

By Jack Healy, PE

Lobby Day is set for May 4, 2004! We will start at 11:00 am with a program/workshop reviewing the current legislation and tips for lobbying. Lunch will be served at noon and then we will meet with our representatives and let our positions be known. This is a tri-sponsored event between the Capital District Chapter, NYSSPE, and ASCE.

Last year we had a great turn out and we would like to build on that! If you have not been to a Lobby Day before, this is a great opportunity to expose yourself to another part of our profession. Engineers from all disciplines join together and let our political leaders know where we stand on pending legislation. Mark your calendars for Lobby Day on May 4th. The meeting place, registration, and parking information will be forwarded by flyer and in the upcoming issues of the PE Times.

Below are short descriptions of two of the many pending legislation. For more information, go to the NYSSPE website at <http://www.nysspe.org/> and hit the Government Relations button.

HOME INSPECTION CERTIFICATION Oppose

This bill is modeled after legislation supported by the American Society of Home Inspectors and would permit persons other than professional engineers and registered architects the right to engage in some aspects of the practice of professional engineering or architecture. NYSSPE opposes the practice of professional engineering by "home inspectors" without adequate qualifications (education, examination and experience). The legislation fails to inform the public about the differences between a

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home inspection performed by an engineer or architect and others. The Society has authored legislation that informs the public about the respective qualifications of PEs and RAs vs. others, and carefully tailors the scope of practice of home inspectors.

This is a real issue for consumers. NYSSPE and the Capital District receive several requests specifically for PEs to perform home inspections to assist home buyers in evaluating a potential purchase. If you are interested in providing these services, please contact Anne Garrity at garritytan@sysadm.suny.edu.

2003-2004 Chapter Awards

By Scott Wilson, P.E.

It is time, once again, to recognize the achievements and/or services of professional engineers in their service to our profession and to the public. This is an important activity worthy of your careful consideration and attention, particularly when we are striving to improve the image of engineers.

For submitting candidates, you may either complete the attached one-page form, or send a letter outlining the reasons why you feel an individual is a particularly worthy candidate for a certain award. The Chapter will then notify the individual that he/she has been recommended as a candidate, and ask him/her to complete and return a detailed biographical information form. Awards information and forms will also be available on our website. You must be a current member of the Chapter to submit a nomination.

The deadline for nominations is

January 15, 2004.

We plan to announce award recipients as part of Engineer's Week (February 2004). Recipients will be honored and awards will be distributed at the Chapter Annual Meeting in May 2004.

Attached to this memorandum is a description of NYSSPE awards offered together with a copy of the simplified nomination form for your use. Please

WICKS REFORM Support

NYSSPE has supported complete repeal of Wicks and continue to favor repeal. However, we also support the above-referenced reform legislation because it provides state and local public owners with a choice - single prime contracts or multiple prime contracts on public works projects. Study after study show that non-Wicks projects save time and money. New York and North Carolina are the only two states that extensively use multi-prime contracts on public projects.

If repeal or reform do not pass, we have respectfully recommended that the threshold be increased to \$10 million for all levels of government.

make as many copies of the form as you need. Please note that all the listed awards do not have to be awarded each year.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Scott Wilson at (swilson@eypae.com) or visit the Chapter website.

There are many worthy candidates out there. Please give them the recognition they deserve and enhance the image of the profession.

Email nominations to swilson@eypae.com or

Mail Nominations to :NYSSPE Chapter Awards

C/o Scott Wilson

Einhorn Yaffee Prescott

PO Box 617

Albany, NY 12201





THE CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER OF THE
THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, INC.

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Due by January 15, 2004

INDICATE AWARD FOR WHICH THIS NOMINATION IS MADE:

- ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
- YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR
- CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
- OUTSTANDING P.E. MANAGER
- CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION
- MERITORIOUS SERVICE
- OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT
- GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

CANDIDATE

DATE COMPLETED YEAR OF NOMINATION

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

SPONSOR (Must be a member of the Capital District Chapter)

Name/Position

Address

Signature **Date**

Email nominations to swilson@eypae.com or

Mail Nominations to: NYSSPE Chapter Awards
C/o Scott Wilson
Einhorn Yaffee Prescott
PO Box 617
Albany, NY 12201

2003-2004 Chapter Awards

By Scott Wilson, P.E.

The Capital District chapter of NYSSPE is seeking nominations for the following awards that will be presented at the Chapter Annual Meeting in May.

ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

To recognize a professional engineer who has made an outstanding contribution to the goals of the Society of Professional Engineers by means of education, collegiate and engineering achievements; professional society, technical society, civic and humanitarian activities; and displayed continuing competence.

YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

To recognize a professional engineer or intern engineer, 35 years of age or less, who has made an outstanding contribution to the goals of the Society of Professional Engineers by means of educational, collegiate and engineering achievements; professional society, technical society, civic and humanitarian activities; and displayed continuing competence.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

To recognize a non-engineer who has made an outstanding contribution related to the goals of the engineering profession or to the Society of Professional Engineers.

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER IN MANAGEMENT

To recognize a professional engineer who has made an outstanding contribution to the goals of the engineering profession and the Society of Professional Engineers through his/her demonstrated managerial ability and achievement.

HONOREE FOR CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

To recognize an individual whose activities or contributions in the field of education have broad and lasting effects on the goals of the engineering profession or the Society of Professional Engineers.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

To recognize a professional engineer who has made an outstanding contribution to the goals of the Society of Professional Engineers over an extended period of time.

OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

To acknowledge accomplishments of the engineering profession by recognizing outstanding engineering achievements that have captured the innovative and dynamic spirit of a profession dedicated to public service.

GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

To recognize a professional engineer in Government who has made an outstanding contribution to the goals of the Society of Professional Engineers by means of education, collegiate and engineering achievements; professional society, technical society, civic and humanitarian activities; and displayed continuing competence.

JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING

PROGRAM TOPIC:

INFORMATION REGARDING CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETANCY (CPC) REQUIREMENTS

WHEN: **JANUARY 15, 2004** REGISTRATION AND SOCIAL HOUR WILL BEGIN AT 5:00 PM, FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6 PM AND THEN THE PROGRAM

WHERE: **ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER**

257 WASHINGTON AVENUE EXTENSION

ALBANY, NEW YORK

MENU: CHOICE OF ROASTED LOIN OF PORK, CHICKEN FRANCAISE OR PESCE ITALIA (FRESH SCROD TOPPED WITH PEPPERS, MUSHROOMS AND ONIONS IN A MARI-NARA SAUCE). PENNA PASTA APPETIZER, MIXED GREEN SALAD WITH HOUSE DRESSING, CHEESECAKE DESSERT, ROLLS, BUTTER, COFFEE OR TEA.

PRICE: CHAPTER MEMBERS \$25.00
NON-CHAPTER MEMBERS \$28.00
COLLEGE STUDENTS \$15.00

SPEAKER: NEAL ILLENBERG, PE

NEAL IS SECRETARY OF PIE (PRACTICING INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING) AND TOGETHER WITH TOM MITCHELL, PRESIDENT OF NYSSPE, ARE THE REPRESENTATIVES THAT CERTIFY PROGRAMS AND ACCREDITORS UNDER THE CPC PROGRAM.

NEAL WILL DISCUSS THE NEW REQUIREMENTS AND WILL TAKE QUESTIONS ON THE SUBJECT. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO FORWARD QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

RSVP AND E-MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO TOM MCGRATH AT tmcgrath@spectraenv.com or AT 782-0882 BY JANUARY 8, 2004.

STARTING JANUARY 1, 2004, CPC IS MANDATORY FOR PROFESSIONALS IN NEW YORK STATE

PLEASE COME AND BRING A COLLEAGUE OR TWO.



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

Email: nbaur@spectraenv.com

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

In an effort to get everyone pumped up for Math-Counts here's a question from back in 2002 ... remember, this is a timed test ... you're competing against 7th and 8th graders ... time's running out ... Hurry! Here you go!

Taking A Chance And Rolling The Dice

Tyler rolls four standard 6-sided dice and finds that the product of the numbers rolled is 450. What is the sum of the four numbers that were rolled?

The prime factorization of 450 is $2 \times 3^2 \times 5^2$. We have to account for these prime factors in 4 numbers that are all less than 6 (since you can't roll a number greater than 6 on one die). The only way to do this is with the numbers 3, 5, 5 and 6, whose sum is 19.

Answer