



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 2004-2005, Issue 1
October 2004

Presidents Message

By Anne Garrity, PE

The Board has been meeting regularly to plan the 2004-2005 calendar. Together with other societies, here is an overview of what is on the calendar to date:

- * October 13, 2004 - Future Cities Dinner. Speaker will be John O'Donnell, PE of the Albany County Airport Authority (1 PDH)
- * October 2004 - SWPPP. This will be a joint meeting with the TriCounty Chapter of NYSSPE (2 PDH's offered - details to follow)
- * November 1 and 2, 2004 - Transportation Symposium at the Century House in Latham (PDHs pending)
- * November 12, and 13, 2004 - NYSSPE Convention & Expo at the Albany Marriott (PDHs available)
- * November 18, 2004 - Business Card Exchange (tentative)
- * February 12, 2005 - Local Math Counts Competition at GE in Niskayuna
- * February 17 and 18, 2005 - Capital District Engineers Week at the Albany Marriott. This year's format will be ex-

panded so watch for details (PDHs available)

- * March 19, 2005 - State Math Counts Competition at RPI

We are developing programs for further in to 2005 and some ideas to date relate to bioinformatics and New York Independent System Operators (NYISO) update on security and reliability. If you have suggestions and/or are interested in assisting in pulling together a program for the Chapter, please get in touch with me or any of the other officers. The Capital District Chapter will also be working with other technical societies throughout the year so that we may keep you notified of as many educational opportunities as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Wally Waidelich, PE. Wally has a NYSSPE Fellow Member. This designation is awarded to li-

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Directors 2003 - 2005

- Monika Lowe, IE
- Salvatore Ervolina, PE

- Anne Garrity, PE
Immediate Past President
- Jim Galarnau, PE
Past President

October Chapter Meeting

By Tom McGrath, PE

The Capital District Chapter will hold its October meeting jointly with the Tri-County Chapter of NYSSPE on (tentatively) Thursday, October 21, 2004. The program will be on Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) and will consist of background on the clean water act; regulations, including specific DEC regulations; SPDES permit; monitor-

ing; and the review of a typical plan. The speaker will be from Atlantic Testing Inc and will be different from last year's program in that the DEC's presentation focused on new regulations and this program will focus on construction aspects and the development of the plans themselves. We have chosen to rerun this topic, albeit in a

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Presidents Message

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censed members who have demonstrated exemplary service to the profession, society and the community. Congratulations, Wally!

A Director position was made available when Paul Adel accepted the nomination as Second Vice President. We are looking for someone to fill the remainder of his 2004-2006 term. If you are interested in learning more about this appointment please contact me.

Thanks to those who participated in our 21st Annual Scholarship Golf Outing. The weather was beautiful and it was a very successful event for our scholarship fund. Watch for details and acknowledgements in the next newsletter.

I would like to remind you to complete the membership questionnaire and return it to either Monika or myself. This will make completing the new membership directory much easier and feedback received so far has been helpful in planning this year, as well as years to come. Thank you to those who have already replied.

As always, you are encouraged to become a more active member in the Society. We are constantly striving to improve your membership but we always need more help. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 518-689-2592 or email me at Anne.Garrity@suny.edu (note the new address).

Sincerely,
Anne

October Chapter Meeting

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different form, since many missed due to last minute rescheduling of the DEC meeting last spring.

The program will have 2 PDHs credit for those who attend the entire program. The location has not been designated at this time. The program will begin with registration from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm, followed by dinner at 6:00 pm and program presentation at 7:00 pm. The final date, location, cost and dinner menu will follow shortly.

2004-2005 Membership Questionnaire

By Anne Garrity, P.E.

As we stated in the June/July newsletter, we have developed the attached membership questionnaire. Its purpose is two-fold: to update contact information and solicit ideas for programs and areas of interest from the membership.

We receive membership reports from State Headquarters throughout the year based on information they receive from National; however there is sometimes a lag in receiving this information and it may not always be the most up to date contact information. Folks change jobs, retire, their email addresses change, etc. Our hope is that with a good response to the questionnaire, we will have a leg up on publishing a new membership directory and have correct email addresses so that we can provide timely information on Chapter activities.

There are several items that will prompt you for feedback on areas of interest related to Chapter programs, continuing education topics, interest in Mathcounts and the like. Please speak frankly (but kindly ... as we are volunteers) and give us some ideas on how we can improve your membership.

We will continue to solicit responses to the ques-

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tionnaire several times over the next few months. Beyond that we will be looking for volunteers to assist in calling members who have not responded. While we'd certainly prefer to speak directly with each member, that effort is time-consuming for those few who volunteer and we hope many will choose to respond via fax or mail.

Thanks to all those who have already responded!



PLTW needs your help

The following is taken from an article written by Mr. Richard Blais, executive director of Project Lead the Way (PLTW). The article appeared in Business and Industry magazine, 4/30/2004.

America faces a crisis of monumental proportions. At the current rate it will fall considerably short of the engineers and technicians needed to assure the nation's future prosperity. Research on this problem is voluminous, including two reports published last year: "The Science and Engineering Workforce: Realizing America's Potential" from the National Science Board (www.nsf.gov/nsb) and "Maintaining a Strong Engineering Workforce" from the American College Testing Program (www.act.org). These reports agree the problem will worsen without intervention. The solution resides in an aggressive partnership of schools, higher education, government, and business. A proven solution is Project Lead the Way (PLTW).

Our schools need your support: from financial assistance for implementing the curricula to participat-

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:

Scott Stevens, P.E. from Dimension Fabricators

Peter Rowland, P.E.

Keith McAfee, P.E. from Niagara Mohawk

Angelo Santabarbara, I.E. from C.T. Male Associates

Conrad Hoffman, P.E.

Please join us in welcoming these new members to our Chapter!

ing on state and local school leadership teams to provide mentors for dedicated pre-engineering students.

What Is PLTW? ...Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1996 that offers pre-engineering courses for students at both the high school and middle school level. This pre-engineering curriculum is offered free to registered schools. Participating schools purchase hardware and material to support instruction and pay for the required professional development of their instructors.

We encourage you to consider being mentors and make your local school districts aware of this program and let your employers and any other organizations know of this program so that they can consider financial and other support of the organization. To learn more about this program you can go to the following website (www.pltw.org/business.shtml).



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The displayed companies are advertising to help defer the cost of the 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 Tapkas, Newsletter Editor at ntapkas@spectraenv.com or call 845.454.9440.

The Chapter thanks these companies for their generous support.

14th Annual Transportation and Planning Symposium

By Fred C. Mastroianni, PE

The 14th Annual Transportation and Planning Symposium will be held on **November 1 and 2, 2004** at the Century House restaurant and Hotel, located at 997 New Loudon Road (Route 9) in Latham, New York. The Symposium is jointly sponsored by five organizations, including the NYS Society of Professional Engineers.

Similar to past symposiums, this year's event will be quite informative and educational and I urge you to attend. The Federal Highway Administration will hold a workshop that will benefit transportation planners and engineers in applying the National Environmental Policy Act to federal aid projects. Other ses-

sions to be held include: The Future of Highway Safety Programs, A look at the Albany's Interstate Corridors, Linking Land Use with Transportation and Local Waterfront Development (sponsored by NYSSPE).

An added benefit to attending the symposium is the possibility that Licensed Professional Engineers could receive professional development/continuing education hours and Certified Planners may receive accreditation for some of the sessions. The Transportation Symposium Committee is working on this issue.

We look forward to your participation.

4th Annual Capital District Future City Competition

By Jennifer Smith, IE

What will cities in the United States look like in the future? The creative minds of regional seventh and eighth graders have insights. Middle school students across the Capital District will be using their creative and innovative imaginations to design their version of a city of the future this semester as part of the 4th Annual Capital District Future City Competition

Through the Future City Competition, students are given a chance to apply math, science, engineering and technology, as well as enhance their writing and presentation skills. The students work with their guiding teacher and a volunteer engineer from the community to design, build and present their city as part of the competition. Through the use of *SimCity 3000* software the team is able to layout their city design before building a 3-D model showcasing a section of their creation. Teams are also tasked with writing a 500 – 700 word essay on an engineering related topic relative to their city. This year's topic is on the use of aggregate in the design of futuristic transportation systems.

At the competition in January, the team will present their model and city to a panel of judges, competing for numerous locally sponsored prizes and awards as well as the 1st Place Regional Title and trip to Washington, DC to compete in the National Competition in February. The National Engineers Week

Future City Competition is in its 13th year with over 37 regions participating effecting over 100,000 students.

The Future City Competition Planning Committee has successfully promoted this competition in the Capital District thanks to community support. Support comes in so many forms and all are gratefully appreciated. Please consider being part of the 2004-2005 competition.

Volunteer as a Mentor: Mentors work with the student teams 2-3 hours a week from September through January to create the city. The mentor's role is to guide and teach the students about engineering and technology concepts they can use in their city. More than one mentor may work with a team. Future City Competition materials as well as training and tutorials sessions will be provided. Register as a mentor at www.futurecity.org. Our students need your guidance!!

Financial Support: Financial donations are always appreciated as they do pay the expenses of the competition. Please share the competition information with area organizations and businesses that may have an interest and be in a position to finan-

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2004-2005 Membership Questionnaire

1. Name: _____
 2. In order to economize on the cost of mailings, the Chapter prefers to transmit information via email. Is it okay to email newsletter and other related announcements? Yes No
 3. Please verify email address: ** identify preferred email location
Work _____
Home _____
 4. For the new Directory, please verify addresses: ** identify preferred mailing address
Home: _____
Work: _____
Employer: _____
Spouse: _____
 5. The Chapter is only as strong as its membership. Are you willing to learn more about participating in any of the following?
MathCounts Directory Legislative Efforts
Website Golf outing Newsletter
Future Cities Membership Publicity
Scholarship Engineers Week Chapter Calendar
Awards Continuing Professional Competency
Other (please specify) _____
 6. What areas would you like the Chapter to focus its efforts on?

 7. What subjects/types as programs would you be interested in this year? (i.e. technical, professional, tours, other)

- Do you have a guest speaker to recommend? If so, please provide a contact number.

8. In planning Chapter programs, do you prefer a:
Breakfast meeting Lunch Meeting Dinner Meeting
Location (general): _____



9. Remarks (i.e. What is your most important member benefit? What would make you recommend membership to your peers?)

10. Would you like a Chapter officer to contact you and discuss anything further? _____

Please return your comments to:

Anne Garrity @ garritan@sysadm.suny.edu or Fax 518-689-2635
Or mail to 8 Snowberry Road, Ballston Spa, NY 10202

OR

Monika Lowe @ mlope@spectraenv.com or Fax 518-782-0973
Or mail to 276 Old Loudon Road, 8B, Latham, NY 12110



4th Annual Capital District Future City Competition

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cially support this competition. Donations may be made payable to the "Foundation for Engineering Education" and mailed to Capital District Future City Competition PO BOX 192 Latham, NY 12110.

Specialty Award: Each year competing teams receive numerous awards at the competition thanks to our local sponsors. Many local businesses and organization select to give an award at the competition, i.e. ABCD "Bridge Award". Contact awards@CapitalDistrictFutureCity.org to sponsor an award. A financial contribution for the award is strongly encouraged.

Volunteer the Day of Competition: Helping hands the day of the competition are always needed. Volunteer a few hours in the morning, afternoon or all day. The competition day is Saturday, January 15, 2005. Email volunteers@CapitalDistrictFutureCity.org. We need volunteers!!

The Future City Competition has an overwhelming impact on students in the Capital District. Students who never knew or considered careers in engineering, math and science fields are now applying to colleges for these majors. For more information go to the national website www.futurecity.org or our new Capital District Regional website at www.CapitalDistrictFutureCity.org.



ENGINEERING: Improving Today for Tomorrow

A Celebration of National Engineers' Week in the Capital District

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

for the

Capital District's 25th Anniversary Engineer's Week Celebration

Seminar presentations are needed for all disciplines including Buildings, Chemical, Civil, Education, Electrical, Environmental, Mechanical, Structural and Transportation.

Topics of general interest to the profession will also be considered.

Seminars will be held at the Albany Marriott - 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY

Thursday, February 17, 2005 - from 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Friday, February 18, 2005 – from 8:00am to 4:00pm

Sponsored by: **The Foundation for Engineering Education, Inc.**

In cooperation with ABCD, ACI, AIA, ASCE, ASChE, ASME, ASHRAE, IEEE, NYACEC, NYSATE, NYSSPE, SAME

Interested presenters are to submit the Training Provider Registration form and all materials requested. Presentations which satisfy NYS mandatory Continuing Education requirements will be given preference.

Speakers are eligible for up to triple continuing education credit.

(Credit for participating plus 2x hours for preparation time.)

Sessions 50 to 60 minutes in length are preferred. Other durations will be considered.

Deadline for Training Provider Registration is NOVEMBER 5, 2004

Training Provider Registration forms are to be submitted electronically to:

Salvatore Bono, PE, E-Week Program Chair: Eweek@sbde.com

or

by mail to:

Capital District's 25th Anniversary Engineers Week
c/o NYSSPE, 385 Jordan Rd., Troy, NY 12180

For questions about continuing education credits:

Larry O'Connor, Continuing Education Chair: oconnor@thruway.state.ny.us

For general info about Engineers Week contact:

Jack Healy, 2005 E-Week Chair: jhealy@ryanbiggs.com

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