



Valley Engineer Newsletter

January/February 2013

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- February 22, February: Engineers' Week Banquet
- February 26, "An Overview of the 2012 International Green Construction Code" (IgCC); Associated Builders and Contractors, 430 W. Germantown Pike, East Norriton, PA 19403
- March 6, Stormwater BMP Webinar/Follett Corporation Tour Easton, PA
- March 12, "PA/NJ Sustainability Symposium", Temple University, Philadelphia
- May 9, LVPSPE Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers.



**PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY
OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
(ORGANIZED 1935)**

CARBON, LEHIGH, MONROE, & NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES

Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers

Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE
President, LVPSPE

Please watch for a letter in the mail from LVPSPE. We will be mailing out ballots next week to all LVPSPE members to vote on updating our chapter bylaws. Please mark the ballot and return the whole ballot in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope. In order for the measure to pass we need 2/3 approval, with not less than 20% of the eligible membership voting. Every vote counts!

Last year the LVPSPE Board of Directors voted to review the existing constitution and bylaws and to recommend changes to reflect our current membership and incorporate new technology. Harry Garman, PE chaired the committee to perform this task. The new Bylaws have been reviewed by the PSPE (State) Bylaws Committee and there are no conflicts with the State Constitution and Bylaws. You can read both the existing and proposed bylaws on our website at www.LVPSPE.org.

There are a number of operational changes, but the main changes are the size of the Board of Directors and term limits for the Chapter officers. The

President-Elect position and three Chapter Directors have been eliminated. The proposed Chapter Officers and Board of Directors are:

Chapter Officers (term/term limit):

- President (1 year/2 terms)
- Vice President (1 year/2 terms)
- Secretary (1 year/5 terms)
- Treasurer (1 year/5 terms)
- State Director (3 years/2 terms)
- Immediate Past President

Other Members of the Board of Direction (term/term limit):

- Chapter Director (3 years/no limit)
- Chapter Director (3 years/no limit)
- Chapter Director (3 years/no limit)
- Alternate State Director (1 year/no limit)
- Practice Division Representative(s)
- Young Engineers' Advisory Council (YEAC) Representative
- Student Chapter Representative(s)

Since we currently do not have any practice Divisions or YEAC or student chapters the Board will be ten people. When Lehigh and Lafayette form student chapters the board will expand to twelve.

On February 10, we sponsored MathCounts, the annual math contest between teams of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from schools in this area. The venue was at Trexler Junior High in Allentown. Kevin Campbell, PE and Chris Williams, PE have again coordinated the Allentown School District, a dozen area schools, pizza shops, and a small army of volunteers. This has always been an exciting time for the students involved, and an opportunity for us to display our commitment to young people.

On February 22, we will participate in the Engineer's Week Banquet at the Holiday

Inn in Fogelsville. Dwayne R. Schantz, PE will be honored as Engineer of the Year, and Brianne M. Wilburne, EIT will be honored as Young Engineer of the Year. You can read their bios on our website. Please register for the banquet (on our website) at www.LVPSPE.org. I hope to see you there!

**Don't believe anything you hear, and only half of what you see.*

-Ray Gross, ex-Chief Engineer, Fuller Company

"Don't spit in the soup. We all gotta eat."
-Lyndon Baines Johnson, in the book Thoughts of Chairman Lyndon

A thousand words will not leave so deep an impression as one deed. -

-Henrik Ibsen

Moderation is ok, as long as you don't do it to excess

-Dr. August Polinske

Our character is what we do when we think no one is looking.

-Unknown

At home I am a nice guy: but I don't want the world to know. Humble people, I've found, don't get very far.

-Muhammad Ali

SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

Please Contact the Valley Engineer Editor to sponsor scholarships for the remainder of the calendar year.

SCHOLARSHIP – THE GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

A great way to be involved in the LVPSPE Chapter is to contribute to the

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND.

The Scholarship Committee is continually seeking contributions to the Fund. If you would like to contribute in any amount –please see the attached form and on the PSPE website at Lehigh Valley Chapter link –

<http://www.pspe.org/scholarships>

Please write your TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation to "Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation" or "PEF". Donations should be mailed to:

Roger A. Miller, P.E.
301 Old Orchard Drive
Easton, PA 18045

Please note "LVPSPE Scholarship Fund" on the comment line.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation currently administers the following scholarships for engineering students:

Undergraduate

- \$2,000 PEF Grant
- \$1,000 Harrisburg Chapter PSPE Grant
- \$1,000 Professional Engineers in Private Practice Grant

Upperclassman

- \$2,000 Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation Grant

Applications and guidelines are on-line now at <http://www.pspe.org/scholarships>

Any questions regarding scholarships can be directed to

Alex Dezubay, PE
 609-577-0714

Scholarship@LVPSPE.org



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Internet Addresses

National Society of Professional Engineers

www.NSPE.org

Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers

www.PSPE.org

Lehigh Valley Chapter – PSPE

www.LVPSPE.org

2012 – 2013 State Officers

State Director

Angelika Forndran, PE

StateDirector@LVPSPE.org

215-536-1582

Alt. State Director

Joseph B. McCarthy PE

AltStateDirector@LVPSPE.org

610-868-8492

VP Northeast:

Eric Tappert, PE

StateVP@LVPSPE.org

610-282-4606

Board of Direction Meetings

The monthly Board of Direction meetings are 6:00 PM on the second (2nd) Monday of each month. Open to all members they are held at DeSales University Hurd Science Center 2nd Floor.

2012–2013 Chapter Officers

President:

Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE

President@LVPSPE.org

484-264-7885

President Elect:

Kevin Campbell, PE

PresidentElect@LVPSPE.org

610-398-0904

Vice President:

Alfred Gruenke, PE

VicePresident@LVPSPE.org

610-393-6561

Secretary:

Chris Williams, PE

Secretary@LVPSPE.org

610-398-0904

Treasurer:

Ray Szczucki, PE

Treasurer@LVPSPE.org

610-614-1245

Immediate Past President:

Alan Fornwalt, PE

PastPresident@LVPSPE.org

Chapter Directors:

Don Kohn, PE

Directors@LVPSPE.org

610-967-4766

Cheryl Rishcoff, PE

Directors@LVPSPE.org

888-524-4972

Roger Miller, PE

Directors@LVPSPE.org

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Nicole Gasda, PE

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Closing Thoughts

Alfred Gruenke PE

A couple of months ago a colleague of many of us, Othmar Buttiker, died. Othmar was a well-traveled kiln operator, having been to dozens of countries plying his trade and teaching. He was Swiss, spoke four languages, and did not suffer fools gladly

Othmar and I were once seated in a small café in Cuenca, Ecuador, talking about places we've been, and sights we've seen. I mentioned to him, that we certainly lead interesting lives.

"Yes", he retorted, "We certainly do"

Our jobs as Field Engineers carried various trials and tribulations. Long times from home, strange countries, strange foods, the whole gamut. Not for the faint of heart or weak in spirit!

On the other hand, we have experiences and have seen sights that are sometimes the envy of our friends and neighbors.

One of the more memorable sights was the sunsets in Ujung Pandang, on the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia. This island is shaped like the letter "k" and is located a few hundred miles East of Borneo. The city is now called Makassar. This is only a bit South of the Equator, hence the sun rises at six o'clock in the morning, and sets at six o'clock in the evening, year round.

The time from the site to our hotel was from thirty minutes to an hour. At 5:00 PM, we ran to our van, and urged our driver to get going fast! Upon arrival at the hotel, we ran to the bar, named the Sunset Bar, ordered libations, and waited for the sun to set. The bar had a full-wall window overlooking the Java Sea to the west. As the sun neared the water, a hush fell over the room, all eyes riveted to the setting sun.

The sun was a bright reddish sphere, its brightness muted, so it was easy to look at. The sphere seemed to cover half the sky as it neared the water surface. It fell slowly into the ocean, but not so slow that the motion was imperceptible. As it neared the water, the reflection made the water under the sun red also. When the bottom of the sun touched the surface, the red ball and the red reflection joined to form a bizarre, misshaped figure eight. The reflection slowly withdrew outward, first becoming wider, then narrower, as the red ball sank into the ocean. Beautiful, but a sign of finality, the end of the day. A moment of awe, and a bit of sadness that the spectacle was over.

It was easy to imagine mankind eons ago looking in wonderment at such a sight. A moment of magic, a moment of mystery. The dark night is upon us, but there is a promise of another day.

Most of us there were veterans of many years, but the beauty of the sun sinking in the ocean never ceased to awe us.

And continued to do so.



Lehigh Valley Chapter
Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers
Lehigh, Northampton, Monroe and Carbon Counties
(Organized 1935)



Dear Fellow Engineer:

On behalf of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (LVPSPE), I am asking for your support for our 2012 – 2013 scholarship program to assist graduating high school students interested in pursuing a career in engineering. Every year, we select a number of promising young high school students from the Lehigh Valley area who will be going to college in pursuit of a degree in Engineering. We honor them by presenting them with a scholarship to assist with their tuition. Contributions from firms and individuals is the main source of funds for this program.

Our economy continues a slow recovery. It is often during these times of uncertainty that investment in the future pays the greatest dividends. This is an opportunity to invest in the future of our youth, who, with your support and encouragement, could become leaders in the effort to maintain our nation's technological leadership. Your donations could lead to a future hire of one of these bright and promising young engineers, providing talent and enthusiasm to your firm. All this can happen only as a result of your support.

In 2011, our local Chapter awarded four students scholarships totaling \$6,000.00. With your help, we hope to be able to increase our support to this year's applicants.

The Lehigh Valley chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (LVPSPE) has a unique opportunity for you. This year the Chapter is not selling advertising, per se. Instead, we are asking for donations to our scholarship program, and in return thanking our contributors with "space" in the **Valley Engineer** newsletter. AND, there is a significant benefit for you – since ALL of your donation will go to academic scholarships, your donation will be **100% tax-deductible!** Your donation will be acknowledged in the **Valley Engineer** newsletter, on the www.LVPSPE.org website, and also at our scholarship awards banquet.

Please review the Donation Levels on the attached Scholarship Donation Worksheet. Please send the worksheet, your donation (made out to "**Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation**"), and your artwork to me. Thank you for supporting Lehigh Valley's engineering scholars!

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about our program.

Sincerely,

LVPSPE Scholarship Committee
ramkmm@rcn.com

RAM/dth



Scholarship Donation Worksheet

1) Choose Your Donation Level:

Choose One	Donation Level	Donation Amount	Valley Engineer Space	Dimensions (WxH)
	Freshman	\$1 - \$124	One Line of Text	--
	Sophomore	\$125 - \$249	Business Card	3½"×2"
	Junior	\$250 - \$499	Quarter Page	3½"×4½"
	Senior	\$500 - \$999	Half Page	3½"×9½" or 7½"×4½"
	Graduate	\$1,000+	Full Page	7½"×9½"

2) One Line of Text (for ALL Donation Levels):

All contributors will have "one line of text" (up to 50 characters) which will appear in the **Valley Engineer**, the www.LVPSPE.org website, and also in the Annual Scholarship Banquet program.

3) Artwork (for Donations of \$125 or More):

- Artwork is attached
- Artwork will be emailed to Newsletter@LVPSPE.org
- Please reuse artwork from previous year
- Please contact me regarding artwork

4) Hyperlink:

Your artwork will be prominently displayed on the Scholarships page of the www.LVPSPE.org website. You have the option of including a hyperlink to your website or email address:

5) Contact Information:

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MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 14, 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

At 230 Hurd Science Center, DeSales University, Center Valley, PA

Attendees: Peter Staffeld, Angelika Forndran, Harry Garman, Alan Fornwalt, Nicole Gasda, Kevin Campbell, Roger Miller, Don Kohn, Al Gruenke and Chris Williams

I. Call to Order: Peter Staffeld called the meeting to order at 5:59 PM

II. President – Peter Staffeld

- EOY/YEOY Nominations
 - All agreed that both candidates would be worthy recipients.
 - Kevin made a motion to approve the nomination of Dwayne R. Schantz, PE for the award of ‘Engineer of the Year’ and the nomination of Brianne M. Wilburne, EIT for the award of ‘Young Engineer of the Year’. Roger seconded the motion, all were in favor and none opposed. Nicole abstained from the vote.
- Eweek Banquet (22-Feb-13)
 - In previous years, the Chapter has been a ‘Gold Sponsor’. Peter suggested that the Chapter may be interested in the same level of sponsorship this year.
 - Don made a motion that the Chapter be a ‘Gold Sponsor’ for the 2013 Engineers’ Week Banquet. Nicole seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed.
 - Alan thanked Peter and the Chapter on behalf of the Lehigh Valley Engineering Council regarding the use of the Chapter’s website for registration to the event.
- PayPal account for on-line payment for event registrations
 - Peter confirmed that the Chapter could utilize PayPal for accepting payment during event registration on the LVPSPE website. Cash or check would still be available payment options.
 - Don made a motion that the Chapter utilize PayPal for accepting payment through the website. Kevin seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed.
- Student Chapters at Lehigh and Lafayette
 - Lafayette is starting a chapter in the next couple weeks and has students interested in becoming members. Alan and Don both offered to pursue the start of a student chapter at Lehigh University.

III. Program Committee – Kevin Campbell

- January: PDH & Bylaws Discussion (17-Jan-13)
 - Event to be held at DeSales University and will consist of PDH seminar by Peter Staffeld, dinner and discussion of proposed bylaws.
 - Peter mentioned that according to the existing bylaws, we will not be able to do a vote at the meeting and will need to mail ballots at least 2 weeks prior to

a board meeting. The votes would be opened and tallied during the board meeting.

- Roger offered to serve as Chairman of the Tellers Committee, and will therefore be receiving votes by mail. Everyone agreed that the ballot mailing would be prepared at the February Board Meeting and votes would be tallied at the March Board Meeting.
- February: Mathcounts (9-Feb-13)
 - Kevin is coordinating the event. 30 schools are registered. Water, bagels and pizza will be provided. Volunteer list is in order, could use a few more. Kevin asked that everyone attempt to collect more donations. Donors will be listed in the Valley Engineer.
- February: Eweek Banquet (22-Feb-13)
- March & April – Kevin will look into events and send announcements accordingly.
- May: Annual Meeting & Installment of Officers (9-May-13)
- Peter mentioned that the Villanova student chapter will be taking part in an event on 1/31/13 which is fully sponsored by Lukoil.

IV. Valley Engineer – Al Gruenke

- December issue has been released.
- Al requested that someone write an article sharing an experience related to how they solved a particularly difficult engineering related problem. Contact Al if you are interested. Angelika mentioned that the LV Business Journal is also looking for articles in anticipation of Engineers' Week.
- Al will be eliminating old advertisements and replacing them with new sponsors.

V. Treasurer – Ray Szczucki.

- No report.

VI. State Director – Angelika Forndran

- Upcoming State meeting at the Best Western in Harrisburg on January 19th.

VII. Past President – Alan Fornwalt

- In anticipation of the Chapter possibly adopting new bylaws, Alan began preparation of a nominating report. Report will be issued in the coming weeks.

VIII. Old Business

- Membership - will need a replacement for Mike Barron.
- Scholarships – Roger has been coordinating. Request letters have been sent.

IX. New Business

X. Adjournment at 6:54 PM on a motion by Don and seconded by Al. All were in favor.