



Valley Engineer Newsletter

April, 2014

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- May 8 – Banquet, Desales University
- May 22 – Lehigh Valley Health Network, joint event with DVGBC
- June 5 – IronPigs tour followed by game
- July 1-6 NSPS Annual Meeting, Grand Hyatt, Washington DC
- September 17 – 19 PSPE Conference, Holiday Inn, Fogelsville



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OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
(ORGANIZED 1935)**

CARBON, LEHIGH, MONROE, & NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kevin T. Campbell, PE, LEED AP

The Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers 2014 Annual Awards Dinner will be held on May 8, 2014, to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, give out college scholarships to local high school seniors, and install the officers for next year.

The venue again will be the University Center of DeSales University, Center Valley, PA. The amenities and hospitality of DeSales are unsurpassed. The event will begin at 6:00 PM with an open bar, followed by dinner. All members and guests are welcome. Please go to our website, www.lvpspe.org for registration.

We can look back at our accomplishments of the past year with pride. Members of our Chapter are well represented at the State level. Our Eric Tappert, PE is President Elect, Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE is State Treasurer, and Joe McCarthy, PE is Vice President Northeast Region. Further, Peter has been named an NSPE Fellow. Quite an accomplishment for our Chapter!

At the State Conference last September our Chapter received the Communications Award, thanks to Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE for his work on our website and Alfred Gruenke, PE for the Newsletter. This year we will be applying for the 2014 Chapter Outstanding

Program Award, to be awarded at the State PSPE Conference in September. This event will be held at the Holiday Inn in Fogelsville September 17-19. I urge all engineers to attend, to familiarize themselves with the workings of the state PSPE, and avail themselves of the PDH opportunities.

Our service to the Engineering community and to the community at large continues. We have awarded over 200 PDH certificates to attendees of our monthly tours. It is possible to satisfy almost all the PDH requirements merely by attending these offerings!

But it is our service to the community which fills me, and the Chapter, with particular pride. Our 30th annual MATHCOUNTS was attended by over 250 middle school students from 25 area schools. It always thrills me to be associated with such exceptional children. I expect to meet many of these competitors again when we award our annual engineering scholarships.

One of the purposes of our Annual Banquet is to award scholarships to four outstanding young men and women who are enrolled in the engineering curriculum at a college or university. This year our engineering scholarships has been increased to \$2,000.00 per individual. Our thanks to Scholarship Committee members Al Dezubay, Nicole Gasda, and Angelika Forndran, and to Alfred Gruenke for his fundraising efforts.

This event marks my first year as President of this Chapter. It's been a good year in all areas except one. Our membership efforts have not been successful, thus will continue to be our primary focus in the coming years. I beseech all of you to assist in our membership efforts. Talk up engineering, talk up PE licensing, talk up NSPE membership, talk up LVPSPE membership. Our officers, board members, and committee members have served us well; it's time to replace them.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of you for the support you have given me, and to the Chapter. Enjoy the rest of our scheduled activities and your summer. And especially enjoy May 8th. Hope to see all of you there.

DORNEY PARK TOUR

Alfred Gruenke, PE

Dorney Park has been an Allentown and Lehigh Valley institution for over one hundred years. For many of us who grew up in Allentown and its surroundings, Dorney Park is iconic; the maker of many fond memories from childhood to adulthood. The various rides from the wooden roller coaster, the Dentzel Merry-Go-Round, to the Mill Chute, were rites of passage to thousands.

While many of the older rides have been replaced by new, high-tech rides that test engineering and human limits, the wooden roller coaster, "The Whip" and the Zephyr remain.

Most of us associate "high tech" with computers, robotics, or bioengineering; but there is another front in the advancement of science and engineering. On a chilly evening in March, over thirty members of the Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers and guests were the guests of Brad Nesland, Vice President of Maintenance & Construction for Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom. Brad presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing the intricacies and complexities associated with modern amusement rides.

All amusement rides in Pennsylvania have to be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Ride Advisory Board. Each ride has to be inspected every 30 days by a State Certified Inspector before its use is approved. The Dorney Park inspectors are their own mechanics, all of whom are State Certified.

A surprise for many of us is that standards for the manufacture, maintenance, and operation of amusement rides are established by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Volume 15.07; "Amusement Rides and Devices — guides and practices on the design, manufacture, inspection, and maintenance of amusement rides and devices. This volume also features the new ASTM standard on the classification, design, manufacture, construction, and operation of water slide systems."

During the operating season each ride is subjected to daily inspections, plus a rigorous inspection every 30 days by a certified mechanic who is a specialist on that particular ride. Also, the operators are trained to perform inspections. Brad has a staff of full time mechanics plus seasonal workers. Carpenters and electricians round out his team

It is during the winter shutdown that there is rigorous inspection and repair. There is a lot of non-destructive testing on components utilizing X-rays, gamma rays, plus visual inspection of all components. When any fastener on some rides are removed, they are replaced with new ones and torqued to specifications. This ensures that fastener failures are eliminated.

Brad took the members on a detailed tour of the ride "Possessed" which utilizes suspended linear induction impulse motors to accelerate the cars from zero to seventy mph, and to smoothly slow it down to a stop. A 6,000 amp 480 volt pulse width modulated drive is the source of power for this ride. The drive and controls fill both sides of a 50 foot long room next to the ride. The manufacturer is Intamin, AG of Switzerland. The cars rise 184 feet vertically up one tower with a 360° twist, reverses, and then rises 184 feet to the top of another tower and a 90° twist. The ride duration is one minute.

Not for the faint-hearted. The yellow track and the turquoise supports are clearly visible from Route 222, next to the Park.



Brad Nesland explaining the intricacies of the high-tech amusement ride, "Possessed".



"Possessed" in the foreground. "Steel Force" is in the background.

To ensure the safety of patrons in the event there is an emergency anywhere in the park,

Continued on page 15

SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

A great way to be involved in the LVPSPE Chapter is to contribute to the **LVPSPE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. Please Contact the Valley Engineer Editor to sponsor scholarships for the remainder of the calendar year.

If you would like to contribute in any amount – please send your TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation to “Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation” or “PEF”. Donations should be mailed to:

Peter O. Staffeld, PhD, PE
P.O. Box 241
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Please note “LVPSPE Scholarship Fund” on the comment line.

Or, you may contribute via the LVPSPE website <http://www.lvpspe.org/Donations>.

PSPE SCHOLARSHIPS

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>

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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 the office of Barry Isett & Associates, 85 South Route 100, Allentown, PA.

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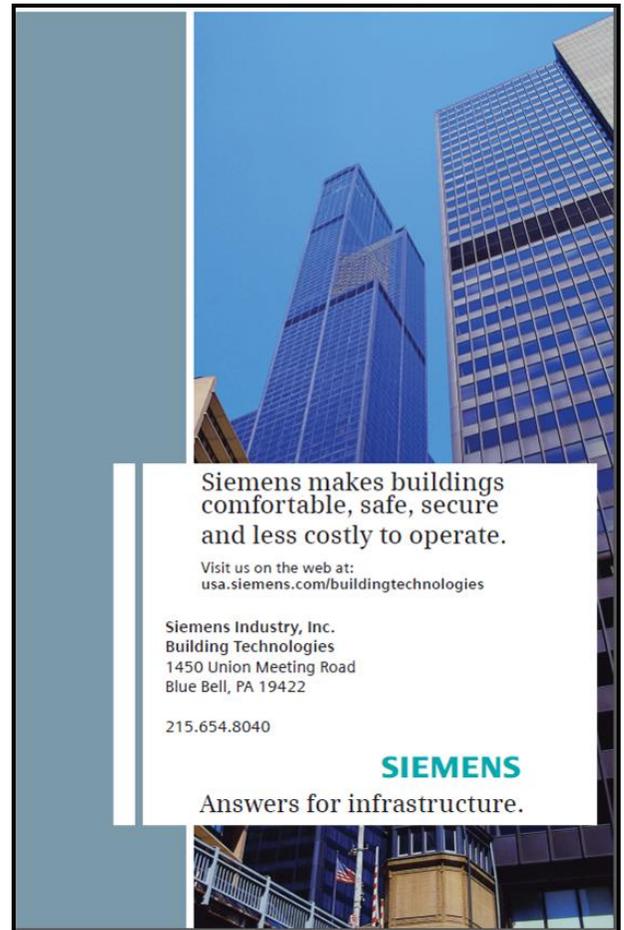
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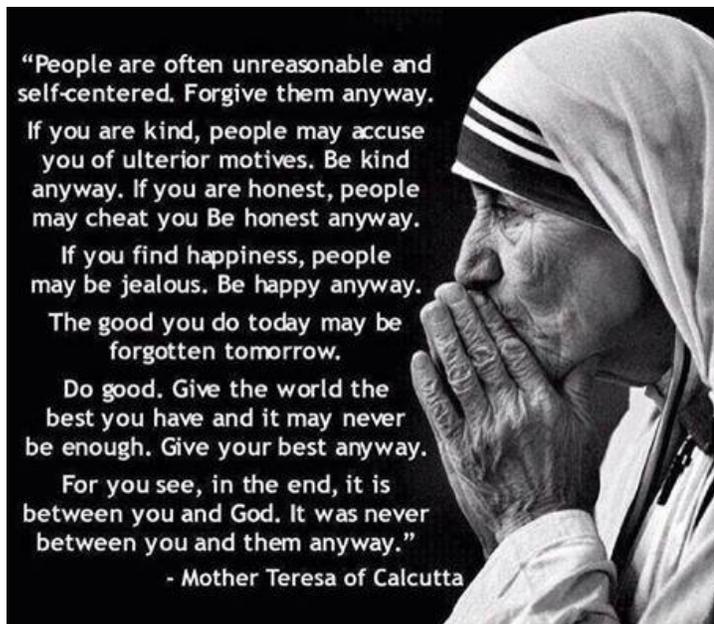
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Dorney Park has periodic joint exercises with the County Emergency Management Agency and local fire companies to ensure preparedness.

The world of amusement rides is more than thrills and chills. There is sound engineering and maintenance to maximize the enjoyment and to ensure the safety of the riders. We thank Brad Nesland and Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom for allowing us a glimpse into the world behind the curtain.

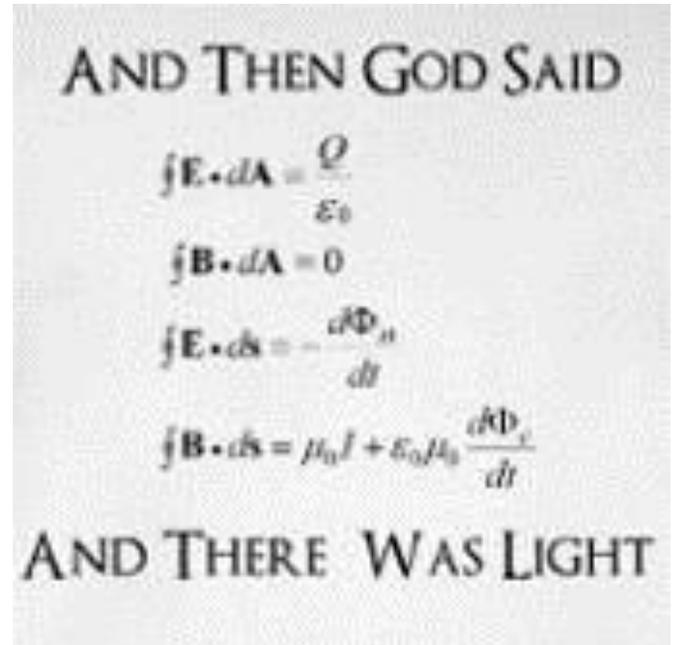


Without question, the greatest invention in the history of mankind is beer. Oh, I grant you that the wheel was also a fine invention, but the wheel does not go nearly as well with pizza or wings.

-Dave Barry

Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go.

-Oscar Wilde.



The Big Bang Theory

Always do what's right; this will gratify some and astonish the rest.

-Albert Einstein

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

My favorite animal is the mule. He has more horse sense than a horse. He knows when to stop eating -- and he knows when to stop working.

-Harry S. Truman

If a little is great, and a lot is better, then way too much is just about right!

-Mae West

Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardener seems to be only one of the instruments, not the composer.

-Geoffrey B. Charlesworth



WE WANT YOU!

The Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers is seeking Engineers to become more active in our organization. We have many roles to fill, which will require a minimal amount of your time.

The Lehigh Valley Chapter prides itself on service to the engineering community, the communities in which we live, and to our fellow engineers. We sponsor the MATHCOUNTS program in which over 200 students from thirty area schools compete annually. Our Scholarship program disbursement to graduating high school seniors enrolled in an engineering curriculum has risen from \$750.00 to \$2,000.00 during the last couple of years. These programs are invaluable for ensuring another generation of quality engineers. However, such programs require volunteers to solicit funds, organize, and staff. Participation is rewarding on both the personal and professional level. As an added bonus, you will display your pride in your profession to the impressionable youth of our country.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires every Professional Engineer registered in the Commonwealth to complete 24 PDHs bi-annually in order to renew their licenses. The Lehigh Valley Chapter offers monthly tours of area businesses and presentations which often qualify for PDHs. By attending these tours you will become more familiar with the great industries in our area and obtain PDHs with minimal effort. These events also offer networking opportunities during these uncertain times.

Last, but not least, our Officers and Board of Director members are seeking individuals to step in as a member of our governing body. The present officers have served for a couple of years and are actively looking for replacements. Our Chapter is one of the most active in the State, and we have a legacy of service.

Your PE license is of value to you and to others. Involvement in the Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers can only enhance its value



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Minutes for the April 14, 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
At the Office of Barry Isett & Assoc. 85 S. Route 100, Allentown, PA

Attendees: Kevin Campbell, Angelika Forndran, Al Gruenke, Peter Staffeld, Nicole Gasda, Al Dezubay and Chris Williams.

- I. Call to Order:** Kevin Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:55 PM
- II. President – Kevin Campbell**
 Congratulations from the Chapter to Peter Staffeld for being named an NSPE Fellow.
- III. Programs**
 - April 7th – 12 attendees for the LEED related tour of Giant in Trexlertown. Focused on energy efficient building concepts.
 - May 8th – LVPSPE Banquet. Reception starts at 6pm at DeSales University. Kevin will reach out to DeSales to finalize specifics.
 - Susan Sprague was contacted to perform installation of officers. Eric Tappert may also be available to assist in the duty.
 - Will invite three large donors (\$1,000+) to the event.
 - May 22nd – LVHN LEED tour beginning at 6pm. Joint event with DVGBC.
 - June 5th – IronPigs tour followed by game. Starts at 4:30.
- IV. MATHCOUNTS**
 - Checks totaling \$2,950 were sent to Jen. Should be receiving a check from her (PEF) shortly.
- V. Valley Engineer & Scholarship Fundraising – Al Gruenke**
 - March newsletter was issued.
 - Nearly \$8,000 raised for scholarships.
- VI. PSPE Award Nominations**
 - Due June 1st. Will submit for programs award.
- VII. PSPE Golf Tournament**
 - Wednesday 9/17, 10:15 tee time. \$45 fee includes lunch.

VIII. Scholarship Committee Report and Recommendations

- Al Dezubay, Nicole Gasda and Angelika Forndran reviewed all applications and came to a consensus regarding the top 4 applications. Recipients are from Easton, Bethlehem Catholic, Moravian and Central Catholic High Schools.
- Peter made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation to award a \$2,000 scholarship to each of the four students. Al Gruenke seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Al Dezubay to provide a summary bio for the banquet and contact all applicants.

IX. Treasurer – Ray Szczucki

- Need to pay \$1,143.56 to LVEC for Engineers Week Banquet.

X. State Director – Angelika Forndran

- NSPE meeting in Washington D.C. from July 1st to 6th. Details available at nspe.org. Hope to have representative from PSPE, possibly LVPSPE.

XI. Past President – Peter Staffeld

- Peter investigated state regulations related to license plates and will be proposing a PSPE plate as a fundraising opportunity.

XII. Adjournment at 6:45 PM on a motion by Al Dezubay, seconded by Nicole. All were in favor.