UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- October 3, AFC First, Standard of Care and Ethics Seminar
- October 23, Victaulic Factory Tour
- Sept 19–21, PSPE 2013 Conference, Holiday Inn Grantville

Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers
Kevin T. Campbell, PE, LEED AP

Dear Members:

As we begin our 2013-2014 year, I am happy to report that our Chapter is very much alive and well, remaining one of the most active Chapters in the State.

I’m also proud to report that our Chapter is the winner of the PSPE 2013 Chapter Communications Award. We won this award due to the great job Peter Staffeld has done with our website and the excellent job Al Gruenke has done with the Valley Engineer. The award will be presented at the State Conference banquet Friday September 20. Peter and Al will be there to accept the award on behalf of the Chapter.

Based on the monthly programs offered last year, we also submitted what we felt was a pretty strong nomination for the Programs Award, but we unfortunately were not selected. Our plan is to put together an even stronger program this year and resubmit a nomination for this award. Starting off the monthly programs will be an Ethics/Standard of Care Seminar on Thursday October 3 and then on October 23 we will be touring Victaulic in Forks Township. As with all our events over the last few years, we strive to incorporate sufficient educational content to

Cont’d on Page 2
be able to offer PDHs so that our members can conveniently meet the licensure requirement. We are always looking for interesting monthly programs, so please share your thoughts and ideas.

This upcoming MathCounts will be the 30th consecutive year that our Chapter has coordinated and sponsored the event! Enthusiasm for this event remains very strong, with close to 300 students from about 30 regional middle schools participating. The event costs about $3,000 and requires roughly 60 volunteers. The majority of the financial support and volunteers come from regional engineering firms and our members – thank you.

The hard work of Al Dezubay and the Scholarship Committee, along with the generosity of our members and regional companies resulted in a very successful Scholarship Program last year. In May, our Chapter awarded scholarships in the amount of $1,750 to four very deserving high school students that have just in the last couple of weeks started their college engineering studies.

The continued success of our Chapter really comes down to just one thing - active members. We need to increase our membership base and especially increase the number of people actively participating in putting the monthly programs together, helping with MathCounts, reviewing scholarship applications, or servicing as a Chapter Officer.

Over the next couple of months, we are going to be actively recruiting new members and encouraging current members to become more active. Please join in helping to keep all the great work of this Chapter going strong well into the future.

--------------------------------
Someone has to do it, and I’m late for work.
-Anonymous

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**Bookshelf**

By Don Kohn, PE

**Jackhammer Elegies**

by Stefan Jaeger

Do you like to read mysteries? How about a mystery story with a Civil Engineer as the lead character? If that is not enough, the bad guy is also an engineer. While I am not a Civil Engineer, I could relate to many of the characters, much of the technology, and the office politics.

The book made for an enjoyable few days while I was on vacation. It captured my attention early and kept the suspense up to the end. It has all the marks of a good mystery while blending in engineering concepts. Of course, it is refreshing to find an engineer as the hero.

The hero, Scott Carter, was trapped in an elevator stuck on the 22nd floor of a high rise building. First he had to get out of the elevator, but you have to read the book to find out how he used his technical knowledge to get to safety. When he got down to the ground floor, he found that a bomb had been set off and there was major damage to an outside wall and significant structural steel damage. Scott ran to his office a few blocks away to review the structural steel calculations to determine the safety of the building. As it turns out Scott, a Civil Engineer, had designed the structural frame.

The twist is that the bad guy is not your usual bad guy but is someone using his engineering knowledge and concepts to implement his dastardly deeds. Soon a character, “Jackhammer”, takes responsibility for the bombing. Jackhammer, we soon learn, appears to be a disgruntled engineer and has plans for further damaging projects.

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

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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:
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Any questions regarding scholarships can be directed to
Alex Dezubay, PE
609-577-0714
Scholarship@LVPSPE.org

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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 S Route 100, Allentown, PA.
LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
2013 MATHCOUNTS
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Scott and an FBI agent work using Scott’s technical knowledge to find out who this rogue engineer is. The problem is that Jackhammer always seems a step or two ahead, and he is always ready to spring his next disaster. The story has all the elements of a good who-done-it story. The reader is always wondering what Jackhammer will do next and how Scott and the FBI agent figure out what he is up to, and who he is.

Scott had moved from design to a management position courting clients. The bombing gives him the opportunity to get back into design, first to analyze the damaged structural frame, and then to support the reconstruction of the building. Many of us can relate to the design vs. management career paths.

Of course there is a side story since the FBI agent is an attractive female. Does Scott get to kiss the girl, or his Structural Stress program? You will need to read the story to see how that unfolds.

The book captured my attention early and kept the suspense up to the end. It has all the marks of a good mystery while blending in engineering concepts. Some of the items that engineers can relate to are structural steel design, water systems, electrical distribution systems, Engineering Society meetings, MathCounts, licensing board actions, etc. You will, as I did, relate to the engineering topics, and events. Many of the engineers depicted in the story will remind you of engineers that you have known through the years. A good read.

The author -- Stefan Jaeger – has technical degree with a writing background. His last position was the Managing director for The American Society of Civil Engineers.

**Jean Bonnet Tavern**  
By Alfred Gruenke PE

Next time you’re on the Pennsylvania Turnpike West of Bedford, around Mile Marker 143, look to the south and you will see Jean Bonnet Tavern, the scene of a unique segment of American history, the Whiskey Rebellion.

The tavern dates from the 1760s. It gained prominence because it was situated on Route 30, the only road that connected Eastern Pennsylvania to the Ohio River and points further west. Over the years is has been a fort, a courthouse, a trading post and, of course, a tavern and an inn. A suspected French spy was hung there, and his ghost is reputed to still haunt the premises. The ghost is apparently a party animal. Unexplained piano music and loud revelers have been heard when the inn was virtually empty. Other ghostly figures have been seen sitting at tables, and watching holiday events. A party of Shawnee once chased a horse thief to the tavern, and threatened to attack if the thief was not turned over to them. The English quickly tried and hung the man, then turned the body over to the Shawnee as proof of their sincerity. Justice was done, and the peace was maintained.

In 1791 farmers in Pennsylvania were angered by a federal tax on whiskey, an important cash crop. The whiskey was made from corn and grain, food for humans and animals, but is bulky. Whiskey is grain condensed, much easier to ship to markets, and

Cont’d on Page 14
much more profitable. It was a simple case of value-added. In mid-1794 local farmers, no doubt fueled by their endearing product, gathered at the Jean Bonnet Tavern and plotted against such outlandish behavior by the federal government. A force of 500 men actually attacked the federal tax inspector’s office!

When President Washington heard of the protests he led a contingent of soldiers to put an end to such nonsense. The farmers, the effects of their imbibing having worn off by this time, stood by the road and cheered the soldiers as they marched to more important assignments. There was no confrontation. So much for that!

The Tavern maintained its strategic location when in 1913 Route 30 became part of Lincoln Highway, the first improved transcontinental highway for automobiles. The 3,389 mile highway spanned the continent from Times Square in New York City to Lincoln Park in San Francisco. Its construction contributed significantly to propelling the automobile as a significant influence to the American way of life. In Pennsylvania, it encompassed the Main Line in suburban Philadelphia, passed through Lancaster, York, Gettysburg, Bedford, and Pittsburgh.

The Jean Bonnet Tavern is on the prestigious National Register of Historical Places. My wife Joanie and I “discovered” it coming back from another place of historical significance, the Flight 93 Memorial located 25 miles West. It looked inviting, so we stopped for lunch. It’s hardly an imposing building. It is 40 feet by 51 feet and constructed of local stone. There are two levels of porches that extend the entire length of the front and the rear. If the weather is appropriate, we recommend outdoor seating. The view of the countryside is spectacular. It is also a bed and breakfast, though we have never partaken of that feature of the tavern.

The Tavern, the road, the area, is steeped in history. When entering the building one can almost feel the events that occurred over 200 years ago, events that shaped our nation. We stop there almost every time we have occasion to be in the area. I highly recommend it.

It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: Freedom of speech, freedom of conscience. And the prudence never to practice either.
-Mark Twain

The only thing I ask of you is to speak well of me. Lie if you have to.
-August Polinske

When a person has an accent, it means they can speak one more language than you.
-Fernando Lamas

Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.
- Eleanor Roosevelt

I didn’t know it was impossible when I did it.
-anonymous

"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"
"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.
"I don’t much care where--" said Alice.
"Then it doesn’t matter which way you go," said the Cat.
"---so long as I get SOMEWHERE," Alice added as an explanation.
"Oh, you’re sure to do that," said the Cat, "if you only walk long enough."
(Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland)

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.
-James Dent
MINUTES FOR THE August 19, 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
At the office of Barry Isett & Associates

Attendees: Peter Staffeld, Nicole Gasda, Al Gruenke, Don Kohn, Kevin Campbell, Joe McCarthy, Lisa Walton

I. Call to Order: Kevin Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

II. President – Kevin Campbell

A. 2013/2014 Committee Roles & Responsibilities
   • Programs
     o Kevin Campbell will continue to lead the Programs effort
     o Lisa Walton attended our meeting specifically to share her ideas for events and will be assisting in scheduling the monthly events
   • Valley Engineer
     o Al Gruenke volunteered to continue to lead the Valley Engineer effort
   • Scholarship
     o Kevin Campbell to follow-up with Al Dezubay. Al did a great job with the scholarships last year and hopefully he is willing and able to do the same this year
   • Student Chapters
     o To be discussed further next meeting
   • Mathcounts
     o Kevin agreed to lead this effort one more year
   • Membership
     o A critical position and so far no volunteers

B. Program Committee – Kevin Campbell
   • Tentatively scheduled to have our Sept. event the 26th at Grundfos Pumps – Lisa Walton to confirm and then Kevin to put out notice
   • Tentatively planning to tour B. Braun in Oct.
   • Buckeye Pipeline, Victaulic, Martin Guitar, Rockwood Pigments all identified as potential future events.
   • Kevin will reach out to SWE to possibly schedule a joint event with them
   • We will also continue to look to have joint events with DVGBC and CSI

C. Valley Engineer – Al Gruenke
   • Al is working on a newsletter to go out early September
   • Need to solidify Grundfos tour
   • Kevin to include a call for members and active members in President’s Message
III. Treasurer – Ray Szczucki, No Report

IV. State Director – Angelika Forndran, No Report

V. Past President – Peter Staffeld
- With Joe McCarthy being elected as Northeast Region State Vice President, our Chapter needs to appoint an Alternate State Director
- With the Past President being responsible for the Nominating Committee, Peter volunteered to identify interested and qualified candidates and will be approaching Mike Basta and Chris Blechschmidt

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business
- Eric Tappert has informed the Board that the PSPE Annual Conference is planned to be held in the Lehigh Valley area in September of 2014 and has asked for some volunteers to serve on the organizing committee
- Joe McCarthy and Al Gruenke volunteered to serve on the committee

VIII. Adjournment at 7:00 PM on a motion by Don Kohn and seconded by Nicole Gasda