



Valley Engineer Newsletter

MARCH, 2017

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 22, 2017, Clover Hill Vineyards & Winery, Breinigsville, PA
- May 7-9, 2017, 24 PDH Boot Camp Central, Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel, Harrisburg, PA
- May 11, 2017, Installation of Officers and Scholarship Awards, DeSales University, Center Valley, PA
- June 25-27, 2017, PDH Boot Camp East, Valley Forge Casino Resort, King of Prussia, PA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alfred Gruenke, PE
 March, 2017

MATHCOUNTS® was a huge success this year, both for us as a Chapter but much more so for our student participants. In the state competition in Harrisburg our top student from the Lehigh Valley, Daniel Li of Nitschmann Middle School, finished #1 after the testing, and #2 after the countdown round. He will go on to represent Pennsylvania on May 14-15 at the 2017 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National Championship held in Orlando, FL.

I had the privilege of presenting Daniel awards in 2015, 2016, and of course this year. Besides being sharper than a tack, he's a good kid.



**PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY
 OF
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
 (ORGANIZED 1935)**



Daniel Li

The Nitschmann Middle School team did well also, placing 9th in a field of 25 teams. Our congratulations to Daniel, the team, and their coach Nadine Novatnak.

I never tire of MATHCOUNTS. Such nice kids, with so much smarts! I didn't have much to do this year other than hand out the trophies and get my picture taken numerous times with the winners, so I had the opportunity to just sit back and observe.

It seems that more schools than ever are showing considerable enthusiasm, displaying their pride by wearing t-shirts with their school's name. Not surprisingly the individual overall winning team, Nitschmann Middle School, had matching t-shirts with their school's name proudly displayed. East Hills Middle School and The Swain School had similar shirts. The Moravian team had t-shirts that said, "Moravian Academy MATHCOUNTS". Easton Area Middle School did it one better, with the first names of all ten team members! Now that's pride!

My award for overall support was Saucon Valley Middle School. Even some of the parents wore team t-shirts!

I'm waiting for cheerleaders to accompany the teams. Why not?

As spring is upon us and the weather is getting warmer our Scholarship and MATHCOUNTS fundraising is coming to a close. This year we raised \$14,615.00, a record amount, thanks to a couple of surprise contributors. Lutron increased their contribution to \$2,000.00, and PPL donated \$2,000.00! The latter was especially gratifying; we have been attempting for years to become recipients of their largesse. Our thanks to all contributors. Fundraising is always interesting, since it reflects on the economic well-being of the contributors. Based on our observation, the business outlook for our community is good.

Our scholarship team of Al Dezubay and Brian Kutz has received 21 applications. This promises to be a bumper crop. Al read some of their qualifications (SATs of 780 and 800) and

we could only marvel. The finalists, and the amount of each scholarship, will be determined in April. The Scholarships will be awarded during the installation of officers in May.

Our Chapter is a member of Lehigh Valley Consortium of Professional Organizations. On May 22, 2017, at 4:30 PM at the Barristers Club, 1114 W. Walnut St., Allentown, PA. There will be a Panel Discussion from leaders throughout the region. Topic: How Will the New Administration's Policies Affect Business? RSVP by 5/18/17 to kmesch@thebarristersclub.com.

Notes from Scholarship Recipients

Michaella Hoffman - Chemical Engineer -
University of South Carolina - Class of 2017
Recipient of LVPSEP Scholarship Award - 2013

Four years ago, I was preparing to move to South Carolina and start College. I was understandably nervous. As I face my upcoming move after graduation, I am excited to be starting a career, living in a new place, and meeting new people. This move comes with a different attitude, one shaped by my last four years as a chemical engineering student.

Each new experience has helped me to continue to explore and learn through life. After my freshman year classes I found confirmation that engineering was the career for me through my internship with PPL, as an Asset Management intern working to identify high priority transmission lines and monitor substation battery life. I enjoyed the engineering aspects of my internship.

During my sophomore year I became a brother of Theta Tau, a chemical engineering fraternity. Older brothers and alum introduced me to companies and career paths that could take me around the world. I completed my second internship with ExxonMobil where I worked to develop a heat exchanger design. I learned the importance of being confident as a female engineer. My manager showed me the value of having strength and conviction and how those attributes can change the way others "at the table" value me.

Continued on page 3

In my Junior year I worked in a research group on fuel cells. I also worked as a teaching assistant in physics to face and overcome my fear of public speaking. I worked for Nestle at the Tombstone pizza factory in Wisconsin improving recycling standards and audit compliance.

As I approach graduation, I look back at my experience and can only be grateful that I could afford to go to USC, thanks to scholarships and the support of family. Due to the opportunities I have had, I am a completely different person than I was for years ago. I am ready and thrilled to be moving to Utah to continue working with Nestle. Unlike the last move, I do not fear the future; I am ready to embrace it!

Things Seen, and Not Seen

Alfred Gruenke, PE

Recently I borrowed a book from the library entitled "In an Antique Land, History in the Guise of a Traveler's Tale", by Amitav Ghosh. It interested me because the subject matter is Egypt in the 1980s, especially documents from a synagogue in Old Cairo. I couldn't finish the book in the time the library allowed me, so I bought a copy from Amazon.com. Now I could study it as a textbook, not merely a story.

The story is intriguing. A young man from Calcutta, India, learns Arabic and lives with various fellaheen families in the Nile Delta while researching the life and times of a 12th Century Jewish merchant, Abraham Ben Yiju, who lived in Mangalore, on the Malabar Coast in Southeastern India. His communications with his mentor, Madmun ibn al-Hasan ibn Bundar (Madmun, son of Hasan, son of Bundar) and Khalaf ibn Ishaq (Khalaf, son of Ishaq) stationed in Aden, found their way to the depository of sacred texts in the Synagogue of Ben Ezra in Old Cairo. They were part of a trading network that reached from Spain, Southern Europe, the Middle East, the Arabian Peninsula, onto the Malabar Coast of India and further East. The writings provide a valuable insight into not only the extent of the mercantile world but also into 12th Century life. This was the century of the Crusades, thus was a tumultuous period.

In the latter part of the 19th Century scholars from England and other places discovered this cache and dispersed it to museum and universities around the world for translation and study. The language was mostly Aramaic and Arabic, written in Hebrew. Amitav Ghosh found that the Arabic was very close to the dialect spoken by the fellaheen, so was able to translate the texts quite easily.

I was on assignment in Egypt for about 2 ½ years in the early 1980s and had visited Old Cairo three or four times. The name for this area since the 7th Century Moslem conquest was Fustat, and was the center of the Coptic Christian and Jewish communities. Before that, it was a Roman fortress called the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Cairo was founded in the 10th Century.

There is some dispute as to the name Hanging Gardens of Babylon. It was explained to me that it meant that the present structures are all elevated, but Amitav Ghosh suggests that Bab el Lon means that Gate of Lon in Arabic. My limited Arabic prefers the latter.

Parts of the original Roman structures still stand, the foundation of the Coptic Museum and Al-Moallakah Church.

To get to Old Cairo was not an easy thing. I could, of course, take a taxi, but I preferred a cheaper alternative. I took the trolley from our guest house in Heliopolis (Masr Gedida, New Egypt in Arabic) to Ramses Station in Cairo. Change trolleys and go to the center of Cairo, Midan Tahrir (Freedom Square). Walk a few blocks to Bab el Louk (Gate of Louk) train station, get on a rather modern train that was so crowded the flies had to exit. Old Cairo was the third station. The return trip could be the reversal of above, or one could take a water "bus" on the Nile to mid-town Cairo, then proceed home on the trolleys. The total cost of the trip was \$0.85. When I took my wife and two year old daughter I arranged for the company driver take us. Cairo public transport was no place for the genteel!

Continued on page 16

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 PA ENGINEERING FUND. Donations should be mailed to:

LVPSPE
P.O. Box 3441
Allentown, PA 18106

Please note “LVPSPE Scholarship Fund” on the comment line.

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

Scholarship application is at <http://www.lvpspe.org/Scholarships>. Any questions regarding scholarships can be directed to

Alex Dezubay, PE
610-597-2007
Scholarship@LVPSPE.org

PSPE SCHOLARSHIPS

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

Undergraduate

- \$1,000 PEF Grant: (Two awards)

Upperclassman

- \$2,000 Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation Grant

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

2015 – 2016 LVPSPE SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Graduate

Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.
Coopersburg, PA
FLSmith, Inc.
Bethlehem, PA
Bridge Gap Engineering
Northampton, PA

Senior

Victaulic Company
Easton, PA

Junior

Barry Isett & Associates
Allentown, Phoenixville, Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre and Stroudsburg, PA;
Borton Lawson Engineering
Bethlehem, PA
Hanover Engineering Associates
Bethlehem, PA
McTish, Kunkle & Associates
Allentown, PA
Rettew
Lancaster, PA
Pennoni Associates, Inc.
Bethlehem, PA
The Pidcock Company
Allentown, PA
Mass Mutual Financial Group
Center Valley, PA
Lehigh White Cement
Allentown, PA
TRC Worldwide Engineering, Inc
Allentown, PA
Millenium Electro-Hydraulics Services
Whitehall, PA
PEAK Technical Staffing USA
Horsham, PA

Sophomore

Advantage Engineers
Allentown, PA
Newton Engineering
Allentown, PA
Staffeld Engineering Services
Center Valley, PA

Continued on page 14



MONARCH
PRECAST CONCRETE CORPORATION

Paul L. Stein, Jr.
425 North Dauphin Street Allentown, Pa 18109-2199
Phone: 610-435-6746 Fax: 610-437-7133
pstein@monarchprecast.com
www.monarchprecast.com




Site Planning & Design
Land Surveying
Transportation Engineering
Structural Engineering
Environmental Permitting
Municipal Engineering
Construction Inspection

3500 Winchester Road, Suite 300
Allentown, PA 18104
610.841.2700 • www.mctish.com

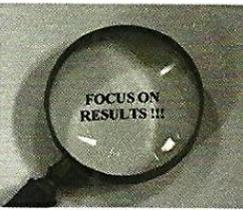
Engineering firm of choice since 1972



Three Regional Locations
East Office
Bethlehem, PA
610-865-4555
West Office
Wescosville, PA
610-395-0971
North Office
Kresgeville, PA
610-681-5233

www.KeystoneConsultingEngineers.com

Johann F. Szautner, D.I., P.E., P.L.S.
CIVIL & FORENSIC ENGINEERING



1775 Euclid Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18018-2112
Phone: 610 216 3918
forensicengineerszautner@verizon.net



R. Peruzzi Inc.
Electrical Engineering Consultant

Robert Peruzzi, PhD, PE
President
P: 610 462 3939
E: peruzzi@rperuzzi.com
W: www.rperuzzi.com

719 Fourth Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Behavioral Modeling and Verification for RF
Analog and Mixed-Signal IC and SOC Design



STAFFELD ENGINEERING SERVICES

Staffeld Engineering Services (SES) provides business and engineering consulting services, primarily to chemical and manufacturing companies.

We develop and implement economical solutions for a wide range of manufacturing and technical issues. SES offers the following services:

- Process Troubleshooting
- Process Improvements
- Equipment Specifications
- Modeling & Optimization
- Project Economics
- Technical Training Services

Scan the QR code below to visit our website (www.staffeld.com) for more information.



STAFFELD ENGINEERING SERVICES
Post Office Box 241
Center Valley, PA 18034-0241
www.staffeld.com
1-855-STAFFELD
peter@staffeld.com



newton ENGINEERING

Traffic, Survey and Development Professionals Since 1990

LAND DEVELOPMENT & SUBDIVISION ENTITLEMENTS

- Subdivision Layout & Design
- Land Development Engineering
- Soil and Erosion Control Plans
- Sketch and Concept Plans

TRAFFIC, TRANSPORTATION & HIGHWAY PERMITS

- Highway Occupancy Permits
- Highway Driveway Design
- Traffic Count, Analysis & Projections
- Traffic Impact Studies

PRECISION SURVEY

- Boundary Surveys
- Topographic Surveys
- Construction Stake-Out
- As-Built Plans

PROFESSIONAL & CPESC CERTIFIED

- Professional Civil Engineers
- Professional Surveyors
- Professional Traffic Operations Engineers
- Certified Stormwater Quality Professionals
- Certified Erosion & Sedimentation Professionals

SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS



6235 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 212, Allentown, PA
610-366-0060 info@newtonengineering.us

www.newtonengineering.us



KOHN ENGINEERING

FIRE PROTECTION CONSULTING

Donald J. Kohn, P.E.
Principal

4220 Mountain Road
Macungie, PA 18062

KohnEngineering@ptd.net www.KohnEngineering.com

Phone 610-967-4766 Fax: 610-967-6468



PEAK TECHNICAL STAFFING USA

Engineering Talent. Guaranteed.

Rob Cleland
VICE PRESIDENT - NORTHEAST REGION

215.586.3600 866.234.PEAK (7325) cel 267.221.2038
robcleland@peaktechnical.com www.peaktechnical.com
601 DRESHER ROAD, SUITE 250, HORSHAM, PA 19044



Minuteman Press

Design • Print • Copy • Posters • EDDM
Mailing Services • Promo Products • Post Office

BLUEPRINTS
New Service!

D Size Prints
\$1.50

ALLENTOWN 1801 West Tighman Street Allentown, PA 18104 484.223.3311 M-F 8am-6pm Sat 8am-2pm	BETHLEHEM 123 East Broad Street Bethlehem, PA 18018 610.865.9946 M-F 7:30am-5:30pm
EASTON 661 South 25th Street Easton, PA 18045 610.923.9266 M-F 8am-6pm Sat 8am-2pm	DESALES UNIVERSITY 2755 Station Ave Center Valley, PA 18034 610.282.1100 x1201 M-Th 9am-5pm Sat 9am-4pm

WWW.MMPLV.COM

 **UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.** **FULL SERVICE CONTRACT UNITS**

NOW AT OUR ALLENTOWN & EASTON STORES

Michael F. Basta, PE

Kevin Campbell, PE

Alex Dezubay, PE

THE PIDCOCK COMPANY

**CIVIL ENGINEERING
LAND PLANNING
ARCHITECTURE
LAND SURVEYING**

FOUNDED 1924

Oxford Drive at Fish Hatchery Road
2451 Parkwood Drive
Allentown, Pennsylvania
18103-9608

TELEPHONE: 610-791-2252
TELEFACSIMILE: 610-791-1256
EMAIL: info@pidcockcompany.com
WEBSITE: www.pidcockcompany.com

Pennoni

PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

**PROVIDING ENGINEERING
SERVICES SINCE 1966**

Construction Services
Energy & Sustainability
Environmental
Geotechnical
Laboratory Testing
Landscape Architecture
Materials Testing & Inspection
MEP
Municipal
Planning
Site Design
Structural
Survey & Geomatics
Transportation
Water/Wastewater



2041 Avenue C, Suite 100, Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-231-0600 | www.pennoni.com



RETTEW
We answer to you.

Engineers, environmental consultants, surveyors, site designers, and safety advisors committed to sustainable development and resource conservation.

Charles Myers, PE
Director of Energy & Environmental Engineering
cmyers@rettew.com
484-240-4519

610-866-8330
rettew.com |   

PENNSYLVANIA
Athens • Lancaster
Lehigh Valley • Mechanicsburg
Pittsburgh • Williamsport

**Integrity
Ownership
Trust**

MULTIDISCIPLINE
ENGINEERS
& CONSULTANTS

**BARRY
ISETT &
ASSOCIATES INC**



Landscape Architecture Land Planning
Water & Waste Water Construction Se
Development
Inspections Lan
Land Planning
Services La
Municipal Engineering Plumbing Water



SOCIETAS AWARD
FOR RESPONSIBLE CORPORATE CONDUCT

www.barryisett.com

ALLENTOWN 610.398.0904
PHOENIXVILLE 610.935.2175
PHILLIPSBURG 908.454.9500
HAZLETON 570.455.2999
FORTY FORT 570.285.8200



HanoverEngineering



HanoverEng.com

- Municipal Engineering and Planning
- Structural Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Environmental Services
- Transportation Planning and Permitting
- Subdivision and Land Development
- Stormwater Management
- Surveying
- CAD/GIS/GPS Services
- Utility Line Design and Permitting

Office Locations

Bethlehem	610.691.5644
Poconos	570.688.9550
Allentown	610.395.9222
Lancaster	717.721.7444
Elizabethtown	717.367.0144
Towanda	570.485.5983
Wellsboro	570.724.5326
New Castle	724.598.6414

Envisioning and Engineering sustainable, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible projects since 1971



**It takes teamwork
to realize a dream.**

We all have ambitions in life – and you need a strategy to reach the ones that matter most. At MassMutual Eastern Pennsylvania, we work with you to create long-term financial strategies that can help you and your family succeed.

Learn how we can help you fulfill your dreams.



Nermin Ferhadbegovic
Agency Managing Associate
MassMutual Eastern Pennsylvania
3701 Corporate Parkway, Suite 320
Center Valley, PA 18034
610-798-2557
nferhadbegovic@financialguide.com



We'll help you get there.®

LIFE INSURANCE + RETIREMENT/401(K) PLAN SERVICES + DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE
LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE + ANNUITIES

MassMutual Financial Group refers to Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. (MassMutual), its affiliated companies and sales representatives. Local sales agencies are not subsidiaries of MassMutual or its affiliated companies. Insurance products are issued by MassMutual, Springfield, MA 01111, and its subsidiaries, C.M. Life Insurance Company and MML Bay State Life Insurance Company, Enfield, CT 06082. CRN201902-168639

LEHIGH
WHITE CEMENT

For extraordinary designs



Visit www.AECDaily.com for our online AIA/CES course
"Reflective Concrete Floors: Durable & Sustainable"

www.lehighwhitecement.com



Develop Your Career with Us

“I’ve been a part of Lutron for 3 ½ years.”

Jamie McMahon (Electrical Engineering Major)
Design and Development Engineer

At Lutron, we’ve been designing and manufacturing energy-saving light control solutions since 1961.

Our success depends on your success. Join Lutron’s Innovation Leadership Program and you’ll develop the skills and knowledge needed to win in the world of innovation.

- Immediately join an engineering development team
- Receive formal mentor support
- Collaborate regularly with business unit managers and directors
- Acquire real-world experience through field assignments
- Foster relationships with Lutron’s global customers

Key opportunities include:

Engineering—Electrical, Mechanical, Computer, Software, Manufacturing, Industrial, Architectural
Science—Physics, Chemistry, Math

Opportunities are also available in sales leadership and field engineering leadership—**hiring all majors.**



To learn more about how you can be a part of our future visit

www.lutron.com/careers



▲ Dynamic keypad in Black



©2012 Lutron Electronics Co., Inc. | PN 308-0717 REV/B

*Bridging the World
through Relationships of Trust*



Bridge Gap Engineering is an agile and highly responsive engineering company lead by a uniquely diverse team of trusted cement and minerals industry experts. Based on service, solutions and relationships, Bridge Gap Engineering is a learning organization focused on knowing our customers and their changing needs in the 21st Century. Our experience spans decades and our knowledge spans multiple industries encompassing plant design, process design, and plant maintenance and operations.

PE Engineers

Josh Cooney • Peter Paone • Roger Wall • Frank Walsh • Dan Sautter

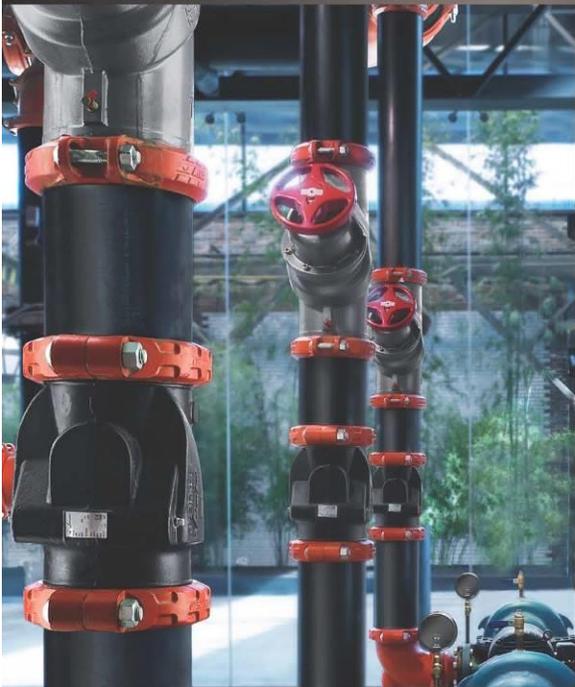
E.I.T.

Jeff Kutz

1717 Main Street, Northampton, PA 18067 • 610-400-8145

www.bridgegapengineering.com

COUPLING INNOVATION WITH CONFIDENCE



Since 1919, Victaulic has been the world's leading producer of pipe joining solutions. Our products are used in the most recognizable landmarks, from the Hoover Dam to Egypt's Alexandria Library, making bold designs possible.

Backed by 1,800+ patents, Victaulic is committed to our customers' needs, providing solutions for your design challenges. We draw it, train on it and certify the installation, all while utilizing best-in-class technology. From concept through construction, we ensure your project runs efficiently as possible.

Engineering Solutions:

- Construction Piping Services (CPS) helps reduce risk and increase reliability for a smoother project experience.
- BIM Software keeps communication and collaboration in sync.
- Proprietary truck loading software saves time and confusion on the job with phased product schematics.

victaulic.com



VICTAULIC IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF VICTAULIC COMPANY.
© 2014 VICTAULIC COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Proud to Honor our Engineers in the Lehigh Valley & Around the Globe



Engineering is what we do at FLSmidth. As a world leader in providing equipment and services to the cement and minerals industries, our success begins with our engineers who plan and design the systems and equipment for which our customers rely.

2040 Avenue C · Bethlehem, PA 18017 · www.flsmidth.com

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

2016 – 2017 State Officers

State Director

Angelika Forndran, PE
StateDirector@LVPSPE.org
215-536-7075

Alt. State Director

Brian Kutz PE
VicePresident@LVPSPE.org
484-821-0470

VP Northeast:

Michael F. Basta, PE
StateVP@LVPSPE.org
610-767-1617

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.

2016 – 2017 Chapter Officers

President:

Alfred Gruenke, PE
President@LVPSPE.org 610-395-6561

Vice President:

Brian Kutz, PE
VicePresident@LVPSPE.org 484-821-0470

Secretary:

Chris Williams, PE, LEED AP
Secretary@LVPSPE.org 610-398-0904

Treasurer:

Ray Szczucki, PE
Treasurer@LVPSPE.org 610-614-1245

Immediate Past President:

Kevin Campbell, PE, LEED AP
PastPresident@LVPSPE.org 610-398-0904

Chapter Directors:

Alex Dezubay, PE
Directors@LVPSPE.org 610-597-2007

Nicole Gasda, PE
Directors@LVPSPE.org

Frank Walsh, PE
Directors@LVPSPE.org

2015 – 2016 LVPSPE SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

(cont'd)

Freshmen

Kohn Engineering
Macungie, PA
Civil & Forensic Engineering
Bethlehem, PA
R. Peruzzi, Inc.
Bethlehem, PA
J.P. Mascaro & Sons
Audubon, PA
Keystone Consulting Engineers
Bethlehem, Wescosville and Kresgeville, PA
Monarch Precast Concrete Corporation
Allentown, PA

Contributors

Michael F. Basta, PE
Kevin Campbell, PE
Alex Dezubay, PE
Alfred Gruenke, PE
Grayson McNair, PE



ADVANTAGE ENGINEERS
your engineering advantage



Providing timely, professional, cost effective
Design & Construction Phase Geotechnical Services
for over 1,300 projects and counting.

6520 Stonegate Drive, #110
Allentown, PA 18106 • (610) 366-7120

*Serving the Mid-Atlantic Region from 5 offices in
Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey*
www.advantageengineers.com



**Borton
Lawson**
ENGINEERING
ARCHITECTURE

PROUDLY SUPPORTS
MATHCOUNTS and the
LVPSPE Scholarship Program

484.821.0470 | borton-lawson.com

Alfred Gruenke PE

Grayson McNair PE



**J.P.
MASCARO
& SONS**

If it's service, it's us!

1-888-MASCARO www.jpmascaro.com



**Providing Professional Engineering design and drafting services
to the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Industry for 38 years.**

Partner with TRC for Success

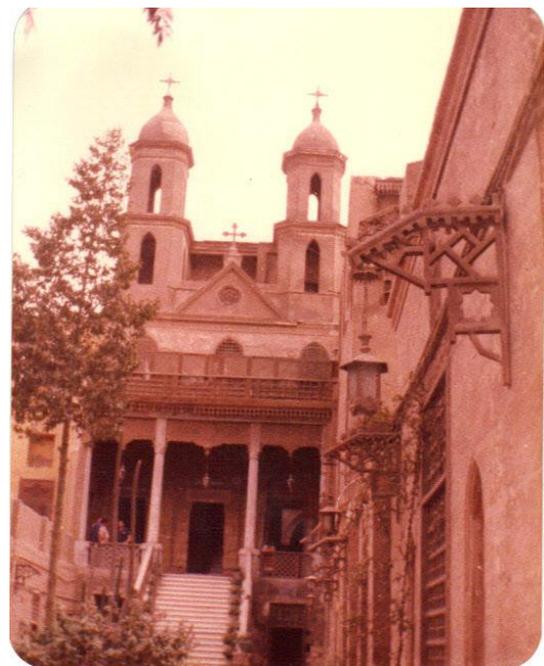
7660 Imperial Way Ste 130	217 Ward Circle	140 E. Market St. 2 nd Fl Rear
Allentown, PA 18195	Brentwood, TN 37027	York, PA 17401
610.871.3935	615.661.7979	717.848.2590

SERVICE | INNOVATION | QUALITY
www.trcww.com

Old Cairo is an area only 200 meters x 200 meters. A thousand years ago it was on the banks of the Nile; since then river has moved about 300 meters to the west. Due to a rising water table the foundations are under water.

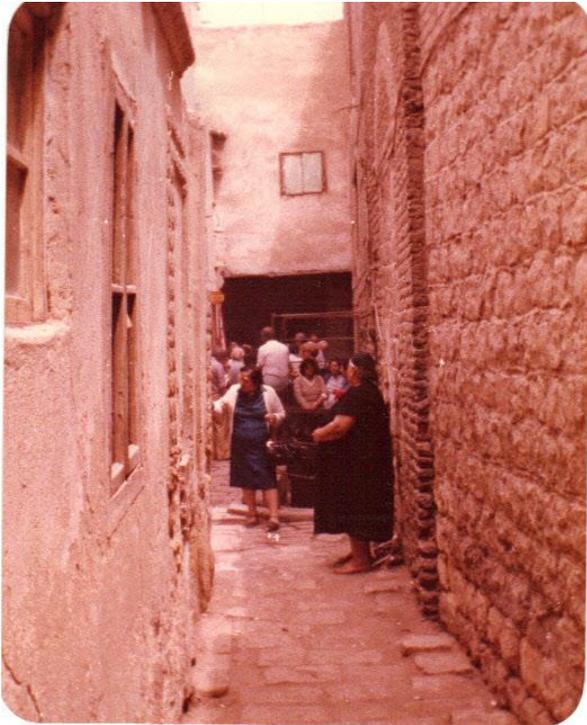
The district is a rabbit warren of narrow streets and walkways, with houses literally built on top of each other. I would not be surprised if all the buildings were over a thousand years old. Surprisingly, there were few tourists, and none of the ubiquitous jewelry shops so prevalent in much of Cairo. There was a garbage heap close by which permeated the area with odorous vapors, and pools of water in the dirt streets suggest a problem with the sewage system. Maybe that detracted from its appeal.

A took a couple of photos, though not enough. Not so good processing and thirty years in a shoe box have deteriorated them somewhat. However, I had the foresight to purchase postcards at the Coptic Museum, which aged better.

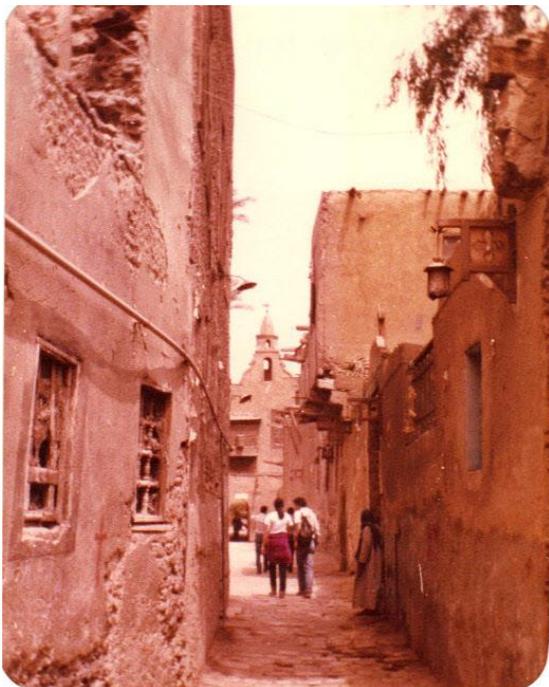


Church of Al-Moallakah

Continued on page 17



Street Scene, Old Cairo



More street scenes, Old Cairo

Old Cairo has a number of Coptic Christian churches which are among the oldest Christian churches in the world. The aforementioned Al-Moallakah Church was built in the 6th Century,

and the Church of Abu Serga was built in the 5th Century and rebuilt numerous times. Civil unrest and conflagrations are not a new phenomenon. Tradition has it that Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus rested in the grotto under the Church of Abu Serga after their flight to Egypt to escape the wrath of King Herod. I have to admit I had a tingle of awe-ness as I walked down the steps and past the Roman columns to the watery chamber. Fortunately, there were planks for us to walk.



The Grotto of the Church of Abu Serga. Note the water. From series of postcards from Coptic Museum.

Reading this book, I realized that I had been completely unaware of the Synagogue of Ben Ezra, or its significance. It certainly was not "advertised." Whether this was due to political reasons or whether I was just dull-eared I can't say. I did expend a lot of efforts to find the burial site of Moses Maimonides, a Sephardic Jew from Spain who, among other things, was a philosopher, moralist, and physician to Sultan Salah ad Din and leader of the Fustat Jewish community. Maimonides is one of the few people in history who was reputed to have known everything, a club which includes Aristotle, Goethe, and Thomas Young. I never found it, because he died in Egypt but was buried in Tiberius, Galilea.

Old Cairo had a lot to offer and I'm glad for the experience, but I wish I had known about the Synagogue. Opportunity lost.

 Growing old is not for sissies.
 --Dr. August Polinske



Lehigh Valley Chapter
Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers
Lehigh, Northampton, Monroe and Carbon Counties



Minutes for the March 13, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting
6:00 pm at the office of Barry Isett & Associates, 85 S. Route 100, Allentown, PA

Attendees: Al Gruenke, Brian Kutz, Al Dezubay, Kevin Campbell, Angelika Forndran, Ray Szczucki, and Chris Williams

- A. Call to Order – Al Gruenke called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
- B. Activities – Brian Kutz
 - ‘Dream Big’ Movie: 1,100 students saw film during Engineers’ Week at SteelStacks; may try for 2,000 next year
 - March: Possible tour at end of month – National Museum of Industrial History in Bethlehem
 - April 22nd: Clover Hill Winery tour/tasting at 10am (Saturday)
 - May 11th (tentative): Banquet at DeSales, 6pm, full bar
- C. President – Al Gruenke
 - Al requested articles from several previous scholarship recipients.
 - If anyone has an interesting article, please provide to Al for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.
 - Al has received \$14,615 in donations, including \$2,000 from PPL.
- D. Scholarships – Al Dezubay
 - Applications were due last night at midnight. Al has received 21 applications and will be requesting transcripts from schools.
 - Recommendations from the Scholarship Committee will be provided at the April 10th meeting and scholarship amounts will be determined then as well.
- E. MATHCOUNTS/Nominations – Kevin Campbell
 - Will send out final accounting for the event.
 - Kevin discussed the tentative nominees for each Chapter position.
- F. Treasurer – Ray Szczucki
 - Ray reviewed receipts/deposits.
 - Current balances:
 - i. Savings: \$18,536
 - ii. Checking: \$323
 - Ray suggested that we coordinate the PayPal account more regularly AND set up a yearly budget for the Chapter.
- G. Adjournment at 6:58 pm on a motion by Kevin, seconded by Chris, all in favor.