



The Philadelphia Engineer

Founding Chapter 1934 – September 2015 issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am excited and humbled to be writing to you as the new President of the Philadelphia Chapter of PSPE. The Chapter has a long history of leadership and support of the profession and for that I thank our immediate Past-President, Yefim Gudesblat, PE, and all the presidents and officers that came before him – big shoes to fill for sure. I am eager to help the Chapter to stand with our fellow engineers for Protecting the license, maintaining Standards for professional conduct, supporting Philanthropy and providing Educational opportunities.

The Chapter Board and I would also like to welcome you to the 2015-16 year of educational and interesting presentations and tours. Our hope is to provide varied and timely programs that will be of value to all engineers; not just those looking to obtain PDH continuing education credits. Activities are expected to include presentations on significant projects such as the Vine Street expressway bridges replacement, and tours of Naval facilities at the Navy Yard, Dilworth Plaza, SEPTA train Control facilities and a flight simulator manufacturer.

We will continue our outreach to try and not just increase our membership (which exceeds 150), but increase participation. These efforts include setting up a committee headed by our Membership Committee chairman Abe El, moving all general meetings to the Sheraton Hotel in University City and reaching out by electronic survey to our membership inquiring as to what their interests are and how we can entice increased participation.

If you have joined us before, we would love to welcome you back. If you are new to the Chapter, please come to one of our meetings or tours where you can speak to a member and find out more about the group.

Thank you,
Tom

Engineers' Club of Philadelphia 14th Annual Golf FUNdraiser

Monday, October 5, 2015

Mark your calendar and hold the date for the
16th Annual Golf FUNdraiser

returning to the Blue Bell Country Club.

Enjoy a FUN day with great golf and friendly competition as your peers and clients compete for the most out-of-the-box hole sponsorship idea!

[Contact the Engineers' Club for more information.](#)

OCTOBER MEETING

Philadelphia Chapter Meeting Thursday, October 1, 2015

Polyurethane Slab Raising & Void Filling

Presented by Tom Martinjuk,
BQ Basement Systems

and

Optimizing the Sales Process

Presented by Dan Caramanico
Caramanico McQuire Associates

This 1 hour session will focus on market changes in the last five years which make selling more challenging than ever within the requirements of the NSPE Code of Ethics. Learn strategies and tactics that will help you to stop wasting time writing quotes you will never win and how to streamline the sales process to spend less time and energy selling them. You will also learn how to maintain your margins while you are increasing your close rate

Light Dinner & Networking 5:15 to 6:00 PM

Course #1 6-7 PM – Course #2 7-8 PM

Reservations at www.pspe-philly.org

PSPE Philadelphia believes that Course #1 will be accepted for a total of 1.0 Professional Development Hour credit in PA, NJ and other National Model states where Ethics Courses are acceptable and courses do not require pre-approval.

PSPE Philadelphia believes Course #2 may be questioned in PA as "practice building."

MATHCOUNTS

MathCounts will be held on Saturday, February 6th at the Temple University Main Campus Student Center, on 13th St between Cecil B. Moore Ave. and Montgomery Ave. Volunteers are needed to assist in this great program for middle school students. Please contact Abraham El at ael@pennoni.com for more information.

Meet the September 30 Deadlines

Deadline for Renewing Your License

Deadline for 24 Credits of Continuing Education

PSPE Philadelphia is providing up to

7 ONLINE PDH Credits for only \$5/PDH

[Click HERE for more information](#)



2016 NATIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK BANQUET

Hosted by PSPE Philadelphia Chapter

Saturday - February 27, 2016, 5:00-10:00 PM
Springfield Country Club
400 West Sproul Road - Springfield, PA 19064

SAVE THE DATE

Outstanding Engineering Achievement Competition

One of the signature programs of our chapter is to host the Outstanding Engineering Achievement Competition each year. Judged by the Presidents of our PSPE and NJSPE chapters of the SouthEast Region, awardees are also recognized at our Engineers' Week Banquet.

Rules for entry are a project designed built or manufactured in the Delaware Valley encompassing the five SouthEast counties of PA and two adjoining counties of New Jersey.

Please consider entering your projects or those of your clients for the 2015 OEA Competiton.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO ON OEA PROGRAM](#)

Awardees from last December include:

Schuylkill River Trail Extension - Locust Street to South Street Boardwalk

Outstanding Engineering Achievement 2014

More Details Click [HERE](#) for full PowerPoint

Route 29 Roadway Improvement Project
Notable Engineering Achievement 2014

More Details Click [HERE](#) for full PowerPoint

University of Pennsylvania's South Bank Greenhouse Project

Honorable Engineering Achievement 2014

More Details Click [HERE](#) for full PowerPoint

CLICK PROJECT TITLES ABOVE
FOR PDF OF PRESENTATION

YOUR OFFICERS

Tom Friese, PE	President
Bob Cargill, PE	President-Elect
Eric Hoet, PE	Vice President
Carl St. Pierre, PE	Secretary
Richard Horenburger, PE	Treasurer
Abraham El	Membership Secretary
Soheila Rahbari, PE	State Director
Fredric Plotnick, PE	Alt State Director
Robert Kaminski, PE	Chapter Director, 2016
Mark Kucirka, PE	Chapter Director, 2016
Philip Udo-Inyang, PE	Chapter Director, 2017
Ed Pluciennik, PE	Chapter Director, 2017
Justin Alexander, PE	Chapter Director, 2018
Rick Parisi, PE	Chapter Director, 2018
Yefim S. Gudesblat, PE	Past President

Letter from the Editor

From our State society website:

"The Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE) is spearheading an effort to remove the industrial exemption from the professional engineers registration act" via HB1253.

And so this is the essence of our membership in PSPE. Some believe our goal is to carve out more work for our guild. They could not be more wrong. Read headlines of popular news media. GM is to pay a record "fine" for the murder¹ of well over 100 people. On the floor of the plant ANY employee may pull a cord or press a button to STOP the production line if seeing a safety or even cost incurring issue. Was there not one professional "engineer"² who could (much less did) pull the cord? **LIVES MATTER**. And within minutes of announcing agreement to a \$.9 billion "fine" to end the criminal investigation, the stock price went UP↑. **LIVES MATTER**.

What happened? Was there conspiracy or merely each "engineer" thought the obligation belonged to someone else? A professional, be such an engineer or ball player, knows one may not yell out "yours." A Professional Engineer knows the designation³ comes with an obligation to the public health, safety and welfare, above that to an employer or of personal considerations. Where was the PE to save these people?

Go to <http://pspe.org/> to follow [HB1253](#). Become involved. Oh yes – you are also invited to become involved to join fellow members in less important but still vital pursuits such as MathCounts, STEM and lifelong learning.

Fredric L Plotnick, PhD, Esq, PE – Editor

Footnotes-

1 – Opinion of author – failure to abate after notice of first death should be construed as depraved indifference.

2 – "Engineer" in quotes designating a graduate of an ABET program but one who has not obtained a PE in any state.

3 – Designation refers to choosing to register with the State. While a license may also be granted to practice for compensation, the primary purpose is to affirmatively register acceptance of the obligations of a professional.