

The Westchester Engineer



PUBLISHED BY THE WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, INC.

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Installation of Chapter Officers and Scholarship Awards Dinner

The Westchester/Putnam Chapter held its annual Scholarship Awards and Installation Dinner at Sam's of Gedney Way on June 16, 2005. The outgoing President, James A. Caggiano, P.E., gave the welcoming address to the students, their parents, and chapter members. Following the Invocation by Edward S. Plotkin, P.E., Marvin Specter, P.E., L.S., F. NSPE, who is celebrating 50 years as a professional engineer, addressed the scholarship awardees in regards to the engineering profession. His stirring words were inspirational, coming from his depth of

experience and conviction. He challenged the students to hold to their engineering pursuits and they would see the many benefits of their chosen profession. The installation of officers followed Mr. Specter's address and the gavel was officially turned over to Michael Slivka, P.E. to begin his term as Chapter President. In his first speech to the membership, he outlined his goals for the coming year (See President's Message, Page 2).

After dinner, Louise Carosi Doyle, P.E. and Robert Aiello, PE of the Chapter's Scholarship Committee, introduced the evening's special guests of honor, the scholarship awardees.

(Continued on Page 3)



Newly installed officer, L-R, Michael Slivka, PE, President, Victor G. Carosi, PE., President-Elect, Robert Aiello, PE, Vice President, James T. Buonincontri, PE, Secretary, Salvatore A. Celona, PE, Ralph Peragine, PE, Michael Circosta, PE, Thomas C. McLaughlin, PE, Directors

President's Message



I would like to thank each of the members of the Westchester/Putnam Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers for bestowing upon me the honor of Chapter President. I will do my best to serve the needs of the members of the Chapter and uphold the standards of the previous Presidents and officers that have preceded my fellow Officers, the Board of Directors and me.

This is a new beginning, bringing with it new challenges and the responsibilities. We must move forward while maintaining the levels achieved and the standards of excellence established by our predecessors.

Our primary goal must be to serve the Licensed Professional Engineer. This Chapter, together with the State and National Organizations represent the Licensed Professional Engineer on many fronts. The Chapter is the local agency that works to protect your PE licensure. We must maintain a firm stand on the abuses of illegal practice and provide a vehicle for Licensed Professionals to confront and abolish this infringement of our Profession. The Chapter participates with the State Society to represent the membership in the legislative process.

Educational offerings will be provided each month for the members to earn PDH's, to comply with the mandated CPC requirements, to maintain eligibility for licensing in the State of New York. Programs for September, October, November, December, and March have been identified and details will be published. The State conference will be held locally in June, 2006, and will provide additional educational opportunities. The Chapter is pursuing sharing education with neighboring chapters and other qualifying professional organizations.

There is strength in numbers. We must make every effort to maintain and grow our membership. Attrition has many portals. Membership growth must include a perception of personal value to the Engineer. Share your PE society benefits with perspective members. Each newly licensed Engineer must be afforded the opportunity to participate in Chapter activities without liability or intimidation. Invite one to a meeting or another function.

We will try to embellish the visibility and image of the Professional Engineer in the community, the marketplace.

The present vehicles that provide some of these functions are programs like Expo 2005, Future Cities, Mathcounts and our scholarship offerings. They also provide insight to our profession. These programs also foster development of the next generation of engineers. Peer recognition is another area that provides visibility for Professional Engineers. The awards and accolades of Engineer's Week and other professional organizations on regional and national levels need to be shared with the community as well. Our newsletter, our website are opportunities to publicize member accomplishments.

THE WESTCHESTER ENGINEER

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(President's Message, cont. from Page 2)

The members of the board of directors all chair a committee, sit on one or more committees and shoulder the bulk of the work of the Chapter. Each member is invited to share the experience of a Chapter activity by volunteering for a committee or sponsoring or co-sponsoring an educational event. Currently the legislative committee chair is vacant. Perhaps this is an opportunity for a Professional Engineer with aspirations in that direction.

The Golf Outing, September 6, 2005, is the next major Chapter event. Chairman Victor Carosi, P.E. will need volunteers for various tasks during the day. Anyone available to assist can contact Victor or the Chapter office for additional information.

I need to extend to each member the following challenges:

- Recruit one new member from your circle of co-workers, colleagues and friends;
- Volunteer for a committee or an event;
- Communicate with your peers through the Chapter programs;
- Participate in as many meetings, seminars, social and service events as your schedules permit.

I look forward to working with each of you during the coming year.
Sincerely,

Michael Slivka, P.E.
President

Awards Dinner, Cont.

(Cont. From Page 1)

Once again this year, thanks to the generosity of the chapter members and the success of the golf outing last September, the chapter once again was able to present a total of ten \$1500.00 scholarships. Eight of nine high school seniors were able to attend the Thursday night dinner. They are Gloria Rosa Enciso from White Plains H.S., Jason Kaufman of Horace Greeley H.S., Robert James Loughlin, Bronxville H.S., Madeline Lu of Lakeland H.S., Michelle Lustrino, also of Lakeland, H.S., Ryan Eugene Matthews from Blind Brook H.S., David F. Rockwood, Jr. of Fox Lane H.S. and Jose Angel Torres from Horace Greeley H.S. Unable to attend was Gwen Luca also a student at Horace Greeley, H.S.

The tenth scholarship will be awarded to a Pace



Marvin Specter, PE., L.S., FNSPE delivers the welcoming address to the scholarship awardees and newly elected chapter officers

University 3-2 Engineering Student at a future date.

The evening ended with a buffet dessert table along with dancing to music provided by chapter member Tony Sottile, P.E.



Scholarship Committee members Louise Carosi Doyle, P.E., Victor Carosi, P.E. and Robert Aiello, P.E., with eight of this year's scholarship awardees.

Board of Directors Meetings - Highlights , June 23, 2005

courtesy of James Buonincontri, P.E., Chapter Secretary

Attendees were, M. Slivka, P.E., J. Buonincontri, P.E., J. Caggiano, P.E., T. McLaughlin, P.E., G. Lynch, P.E., E. Psaltakis, P.E., F. Kincheloe, P.E., J. Witko, P.E., V. Carosi, P.E., S. Celona, P.E. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM at Baker Engineering NY, Inc.

President's Report:

1. Regarding the Awards Dinner, seven of the ten awardees were present. There were 52 attendees, thirty paid and twenty-two guests. The revenue for the event fell short of the cost by \$1512.75.
 2. The following chapter members are involved with NYSSPE: S. Fasnacht, P.E. is on the Nominating Committee; S. Celona, P.E. is on the Publicity Committee; F. Lurch, P.E. is on the PAC Committee; W. Prazenka, P.E. is President-Elect; R. Petruccelli, P.E. chairs the Nominating Committee and L. Doyle, P.E. is Vice President of PE's in Government.
 3. At the meeting in Montauk, NYSSPE agreed to hire a person to help with the administrative duties of PIE and FEE.
 4. PEP has a library of CD's and web casts available to chapters.
- Treasurer's Report:
F. Kincheloe, P.E. noted the chapter has to submit tax forms by the end of July. He will forward a draft of the Peachtree records to the chapter accountant for review shortly. The state will be contacted by M. Slivka, P.E. to have checks sent to the chapter office
- Committee Reports:
Membership - M. Circosta, P.E. noted that Jeff Sonnergran, P.E. will assist on the membership committee.
Golf Outing - The Golf Outing will take place at the Canyon Club on

the day after Labor Day. V. Carosi, P.E. is working with a marketing firm to assemble party favors to be given out and develop a theme for the evening. To speed things up, the start time this year will be moved from 11AM to 10:30 AM. The Canyon Club will charge the chapter the same as last year, so the board approved the cost to golfers will also be the same as last year (breakfast sponsorship - \$350.00; half way sponsorship - \$350.00; dinner sponsor - \$450.00; hold sponsors - \$225.00 each; a round of golf - \$250.00) except for dinner, which will be raised from \$85.00 to \$90.00.

MATHCOUNTS - E. Psaltakis, P.E. will mail letters to the schools in September. He has booked February 4, 2006 for the event (the following Saturday to be a snow date)..

Publications - M. Slivka, P.E., requested Committee Chair, J. Caggiano, to highlight articles concerning technical successes, as well as articles to attract new members along with chapter activities and accomplishments.
PE. Web Page Development - Steve Plaziak has developed a non-frame version of the web page and has posted a trial version for review. The cost to rework the web site to this format would be \$400-\$500. The Board asked to see how often the web page is viewed. V. Carosi, P.E. will chair the web page committee.

Programs and Meetings - R. Aiello, P.E. will prepare the submission paperwork to PIE for the professional liability program to be given in September. S. Celona, P.E. requested the program to be given by E. Takhtovich, P.E., "Materials & Structural Evaluation of Selected Water Pollution Control Plant Structures", originally scheduled for October, be given in September. In turn, the

professional liability program would be presented in October. G. Lynch, P.E. offered to have a vendor give a presentation in November. F. Kincheloe, P.E. offered Savin's meeting area for a half-day presentation in April. T. McLaughlin, P.E. will see if HDR can present a program to the chapter; J. Witko, P.E. will do likewise with Black and Veatch..
Old Business:
J. Caggiano, P.E. reported the chapter will owe a portion of the money collected to the organizing chapters of Engineering Expo 2005. He noted there were very few students from Westchester/Putnam; most were from Rockland. Next year's event is tentatively scheduled for March 26, 2006. It will be held at either Pace University or Manhattan College.
New Business - S. Celona, P.E. announced that the 2006 NYSSPE Annual Convention will be held in Westchester. As such, our chapter's installation of officers will occur at the same time as that of NYSSPE. The award of scholarships will be held at a separate time from this event. S. Celona, P.E. has volunteered to chair the organizing committee and the board approved this motion. M. Slivka, P.E. noted this will require some financial support from the chapter.

The meeting was concluded at 6:46 PM. The next BOD meeting will be held on July 27, 2005, 5:30 PM at Baker Engineering NY, Inc.

For past board meeting highlights please visit the chapter's web site at:

www.westputpe.org.

Engineering Expo 2005

On Sunday May 1, 2005 the Westchester/Putnam Chapter participated in a joint venture along with the Rockland, Ulster, Dutchess and Orange County Chapters as well as the Lower Hudson Valley Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, to provide an interactive experience for middle and high school students. Their goal was to acquaint students with educational opportunities and some of the career options open to engineers.

Invitations were sent out to all middle and high schools in the participating areas. The event was hosted at the Rockland Community College Field House and was comprised of exhibits and information booths presented by area colleges with engineering related programs, including Cornell, Columbia, St. Thomas Aquinas College, Stevens Institute of Technology, Manhattan College, and Clarkson, among others.

Displays and exhibits by area companies and agencies that hire staff engineers were available to discuss careers with the students. The sponsoring organizations committed to making the program as informational as possible so that students can better appreciate the many opportunities that exist for engineering education and careers.

Next year's Expo is tentatively scheduled for March 26, 2006 and will be held at either Pace University or Manhattan College.



James Caggiano, P.E. and Ralph Peragine, P.E. man the West/Put Chapter exhibit



Board Member Michael Circosta, P.E. with fellow members of ASHRAE



Rich Cassin, P.E., relates information from ASCE to inquiring students.

State NYSSPE Annual Meeting Held at Montauk

This year's annual state meeting of NYSSPE was held on June 1-2, 2005 at the Montauk Yacht Club as the Suffolk County Chapter hosted the event with newly elected State President Jack Naylor, P.E.

The Westchester/Putnam Chapter was well represented as many chapter members not only serve on various state committees (see the June BOD meeting notes for details), but the state chapter of NSPE also chose the Interchange 8 Construction Project as its "Project of the Year." The scope of this project was presented to the West/Put membership at the May 25, 2005 luncheon held at the NYS Thruway offices in Tarrytown as well as the Spring Edition of the "Westchester Engineer".

Next year's state meeting will be hosted by our chapter as President-Elect, William Prazenka, P.E. takes office.



William Prazenka, P.E. of CTE, Ramesh Mehta, P.E. of the NYS Thruway Authority, Susan K. Fasnacht, PE of Chas. H. Sells, Inc. and Salvatore Celona, PE of Baker Engineering NY, Inc. jointly accept the State award for "Project of the Year."

The Westchester/Putnam Chapter of NYSSPE would like to thank the following individuals and firms who supported our scholarship program. Through their generous donations, the Chapter was able to award scholarships to 10 students.

☆☆☆GOLD☆☆☆

\$1000.00 or More

Builders Institute of Westchester, Inc.
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☆☆SILVER☆☆

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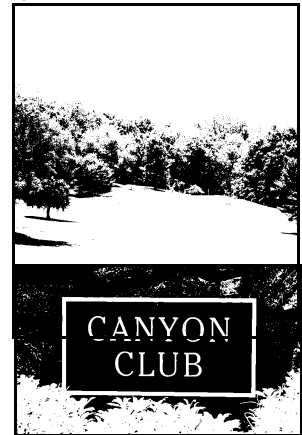
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Michael Slivka, PE
Ronald A. Freeman, PE
Salvatore A. Celona, PE
TRC Raymond Keyes

25th Annual NYSSPE Golf Outing - Tuesday, September 6, 2005
Please mail the completed bottom portion with your check payable to the
NYSSPE Westchester/Putnam Chapter to:

Susan K. Fasnacht, P.E.
Chas. H. Sells, Inc.
555 Pleasantville Road, South Building
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510
Phone: (914) 747-1120
Fax: (914) 747-1956



RSVP by August 26, 2005



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Name: _____

Firm/Agency: _____

Address: _____

Day of Event Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Golf & Dinner : _____ @ \$250 per person = _____

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Total Enclosed= _____

Name of Guests: _____

Golf: _____

Dinner Only: _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 27, 2005 - Board Meeting
Baker Engineering NY, Inc.
August 24, 2005 - Board Meeting
Baker Engineering NY, Inc.
September 6, 2005 - Annual Golf Outing
Canyon Club, Armonk, NY
September 14, 2005 - Member Meeting
Pleasantville Country Club
September 28, 2005 - Board Meeting
Baker Engineering NY, Inc.
October 12, 2005 - Member Meeting
Pleasantville Country Club
October 26, 2005 - Board Meeting
Baker Engineering NY, Inc.
November 9, 2005 Member Meeting
Pleasantville Country Club

*2006 State NYSSPE Meeting to be
Hosted by Westchester/Putnam Chapter*

The 2006 State Meeting of NYSSPE will mark the 80th Anniversary of one of the founding chapters of NSPE. The venue will be held in early June (date tba), 2006. Chapter member William Prazenka, P.E. of Consoer Townsend Envirodyne (CTE), is the State President-elect and so the honor of hosting is bestowed upon our organization.

A committee has been formed to help assist with the organization and event planning for this conference and is seeking volunteers to help make it a resounding success. This is an excellent opportunity for our membership to showcase their firms in many aspects of support. Please contact Salvatore Celona, P.E., committee chair, at (914) 333-5320 or e-mail at sacelona@mbakercorp.com.

Westchester/Putnam Society of Professional Engineers, Inc.
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www.westputpe.org