



# The Philadelphia Engineer

Founding Chapter 1934 – April 2019 issue

Thursday, April 5, 2018  
Pizza and Two Courses

Letter from the Editor

## Replacing MG Sets for St. Louis Arch

Harvey D. Hnatiuk, PE  
Maida Engineering

This session will review the reasons and justifications for modernizing the hoist systems and associated controls of the two trams that operate in the Gateway Arch. It will review the unique challenges that confronted the project team and how these challenges were overcome. It will describe the new operating system and review “before and after” conditions related to the replacement

## Dry Pipe Fire Protection Systems

Dave Fremont

Regional Sales Manager General Air Products

This session will educate the group on how and why Dry Pipe Fire Protection solutions are used. It will discuss the role the fire protection air compressor manufacturer serves and go into different methods of dry system filling solutions that are being used and how they are able to mitigate corrosion to extend the life of the fire protection systems.

to be held at Pennoni Associates

1900 Market St Suite 300 Philadelphia, 19103

to REGISTER go to [www.pspe-philly.org](http://www.pspe-philly.org)

PSPE has evaluated these courses for 1.0 Professional Development Hour each. The courses should meet the continuing education license contact credit hour requirements for New York State. PSPE believes that the courses are acceptable for credit in PA, NJ and other National Model states where courses do not require pre-approval.

This is our Annual Newsletter as mandated by our Bylaws. The big news for this year includes increased challenges at State level to the very concept of registration and licensing of engineers (and other professions and occupations.) But the other big news is that at least one state, Massachusetts, has closed some of its “industrial exemption” following deaths with no person to hold accountable, and now requires a licensed professional engineer to approve plans for engineering work associated with natural gas infrastructure.

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## NOMINATIONS

Pursuant to Bylaw 12, Section 6, Nominees for Officers and our Board, as provided by the Nominations Committee (or by petition) are provided below:

<b>Fredric L. Plotnick, PE</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Chris Fell, PE</b>	<b>President-Elect</b>
<b>vacant</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Erik Hoet, PE</b>	<b>Past President</b>
<b>vacant*</b>	<b>Secretary*</b>
<b>Abraham EI</b>	<b>Membership Secretary</b>
<b>Linda Douthwaite, PE</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Thomas Friese, PE</b>	<b>State Director</b>
this is a three year position completing in May 2024	
<b>Soheila Rahbari, PE</b>	<b>Alt State Director</b>
<b>Ed Pluciennik, PE</b>	<b>Chapter Director, 2020</b>
<b>vacant</b>	<b>Chapter Director, 2020</b>
<b>Rick Parisi, PE</b>	<b>Chapter Director, 2021</b>
<b>Robert Cargill, PE</b>	<b>Chapter Director, 2021</b>
<b>Yefim Gudesblat, PE</b>	<b>Chapter Director, 2022</b>
<b>vacant</b>	<b>Chapter Director, 2022</b>

## BYLAW 12 -- NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

SECTION 9. A vacancy in the office of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, State Director, Alternate State Director, or of a Chapter Director shall be filled by elective appointment of the Board. Officers or Directors so appointed shall hold office only for the unexpired term of the office vacated. Such tenure shall not preclude nomination for this office at the next election.

Interested individuals may contact [president@pspe-philly.org](mailto:president@pspe-philly.org)  
\* In the absence of an elected or appointed Secretary, the President shall also act as Secretary, subject to normal practice of submittal to and approval of Minutes by the Board.



PSPE Philadelphia is proud to announce

## Joseph F. Maida, PE,

named PSPE 2018 Engineer of the Year

Joe Maida has been a strong PSPE advocate since joining NSPE and PSPE in 1976. Mr. Maida knows first hand the training and leadership regimen found in PSPE. He served as a Board Member and Chapter President in two PSPE chapters, Valley Forge and Philadelphia. Mr. Maida has encouraged his employees to not only join NSPE and PSPE but also to be active in these organizations. Maida Engineering has sponsored four PSPE chapter presidents, PSPE board members, a PSPE state president, an NSPE board member and an NSPE president with his support and encouragement.

Mr. Maida has made presentations at PSPE annual conferences and continuing education events. In addition, he is active in NYSSPE Practicing Institute of Engineering (PIE) and regularly reviews presentations to assess if they qualify for PDH credit for engineers licensed in New York. He has been instrumental in the success of the PSPE Education Committee. Mr. Maida is a member of the Philadelphia Section of the IEEE and has presented many programs at local meetings on a variety of professional and technical topics. Mr. Maida is also a member of the Engineers Club of Philadelphia, and served on its board for several years.

### Letter from the Editor

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Perhaps the key words from these two threads to assist us in promoting the need for Professional Engineers are to again distinguish Registration from Licensing, and Professions from Occupations. Engineers like police officers take an oath to protect the public. We are "on duty" 24/7/365" and even in foreign jurisdictions. Engineers are educated then trained then tested and then after taking that oath are registered. The key attribute required by our Board of Engineers is not the education nor training nor testing but character. Will the Professional Engineer place the public health, safety, property and welfare above all else?

A license is required of many occupations to set minimum standards of competence and qualification. And to collect revenue for the General Fund. Do not allow the two words to merge and lose true meaning. Proudly note on your signature line that you are Registered as a Professional Engineer. And perhaps that you are Licensed to use proprietary software.

When a manufacturing firm or industrial group claims it has size and insurance to protect the public, don't buy it. When lives are lost there must be accountability to some person who had the last chance to prevent such disaster. Perhaps that person did all that could be done and reimbursement for economic injury from insurance is enough. But without personal responsibility we will have another death next year.

Fredric L Plotnick, PE

## Philadelphia Chapter Program 2018-2019

Our program for 2018-19 is provided below. We continue to look to our Members for suggestions and to volunteer to share knowledge with your peers. Please contact our leadership at [President@PSPE-Philly.org](mailto:President@PSPE-Philly.org).

Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers Philadelphia Chapter 2018-2019 Program	
Date	Event - <a href="#">Click Event for Details</a>
Sep. 6, 2018	<a href="#">Mussel Hatchery Tour</a>
Sep. 13-14, 2018	<a href="#">PSPE State Conference in Johnstown</a>
Oct. 4, 2018	<a href="#">Ductless HVAC Cooling Tower Collapse</a>
Nov. 1, 2018	<a href="#">Philadelphia Floodplain Development Ethics taught by Frank Stanton, PE</a>
Dec. 4, 2018 11:30am - 2pm <a href="#">Multi-Society</a>	<a href="#">Annual Multi-Society Meeting</a> (Organized by the Engineers' Club) DoubleTree Philadelphia Hotel 237 South Broad at Locust Street
Dec. 6, 2018 <a href="#">SE Regional Event</a>	<a href="#">Delaware Valley Region Outstanding Engineering Achievement Presentations</a>
Jan. 3, 2019	<a href="#">Philadelphia Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant Course/Tour</a>
Feb. 7, 2019	<a href="#">Legislative Round Table - ChartHouse</a>
Feb 9, 2019 <a href="#">MathCounts</a>	<a href="#">Phila Chapter <b>MathCounts</b> Competition at Temple University</a>
Feb 14, 2019 <a href="#">ECP Dinner</a>	<a href="#">Dinner Event by Engineers' Club</a> DoubleTree Philadelphia Hotel
Feb 19, 2019 <a href="#">ECP Young Eng</a>	<a href="#">Young Engineers Social by ECP</a> Ladder 15 at 1528 Sansom Street at 6pm
Feb 23, 2019 <a href="#">NSPE Engineers' Week Banquet</a>	<a href="#">Greater Philadelphia and Delaware Valley Regional National Engineers' Week Banquet</a>
Mar 7, 2019	<a href="#">Patent Application and Process Growing Marijuana</a>
Apr 4, 2019	<a href="#">Compressors for Fire Suppression Replacing of MG Sets for St. Louis Arch</a>
May 2, 2019	Annual Meeting & Officers Installed
May 19-21, 2019	PSPE 24 PDH Boot Camp Central
May 22, 2019 <a href="#">STEM Awards</a>	<a href="#">STEM Awards Night at CBS3</a> MathCounts, Future City, Sea Perch, HighSchoolScholarships, BestTeachers
Jun 16-18, 2019	PSPE 24 PDH Boot Camp West
Sep 19-20, 2019	PSPE State Conference in Bethlehem

