



The Philadelphia Engineer

Founding Chapter 1934 – January 2019 issue

Outstanding Engineering Achievement Program

Top regional projects judged by Presidents of regional chapters
Winners for 2018:

Outstanding: Urban Engineers
[The Rail Park](#)

Notable: Maida Engineering
[Replacement of St Louis Arch Tram MG Sets](#)

Honorable: Pennoni Associates
[West Deptford 625000sf Amazon "Sort" Facility](#)



2019 NATIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK BANQUET

Hosted by the Philadelphia Chapter of PSPE

Keynote Address

"from STEM to STEAM"

Members of NSPE Chapters and other engineering groups of Delaware Valley are invited to join our eWeek Committee and help set the Program and choose our Speaker - please contact [Banquet Committee](#)

Saturday - February 23, 2019

5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Chart House Restaurant

555 S Christopher Columbus Blvd

Philadelphia, PA 19147

215-625-8383 - Free Parking

Recognize, Promote and Celebrate the Role Engineers fill in the Greater Philadelphia Area

90 Minute Reception before dinner is served (with Hot Butlered Hors d'Oeuvres and Cash Bar) then a Full Course Dinner and an after dinner Dessert Reception

- Program and Presentations -
Status of STEM – Awards – Keynote

Price per person is \$70.00 - Student Rate is \$35.00

Leadership

Our Chapter is facing a leadership challenge as we enter 2019. January is the month our Board reviews the Nominations for the 2019-2020 Chapter Year. We are seeking:

- A President-Elect (then to be President 2020-2021)
- A Vice-President
- Alternate to Andrew Pockl, PE for Secretary
- Alternate to Chris Fell, PE for Treasurer
- TWO Chapter Directors for 2019-2022
- Alternate to Thomas Friese, PE State Director 2019-2022
- Alternate to Soheila Rahbari, PE as Alt. State Director

Leadership is also looking for interest in being a new Trustee to our Chapter Fund. (This appointed by President and Board.) For more information or consideration, please contact Chair of Nominations Thomas Friese, PE at President@pspe-philly.org.

Leadership is important because PSPE's mission is not assured without **active** engagement by engineers to persuade general public perception and thus our Legislators. Should Engineers be licensed by the State? Perhaps, but only as an accessory to being Registered. What is the distinction?

A doctor's utmost duty is to her patient. A lawyer's utmost duty is to his client. Licensing Boards rarely will cite a doctor (now often an employee of an insurance or drug company) who follows the instruction of his boss. Of the 'professions' only the Engineer **must** ignore her personal gain and ignore the commands of a client or employer so to give the utmost to the general public health, safety, property and welfare.

An Engineer is sworn to an oath upon meeting the requirements for Registration and concurrent Licensure. An Engineer is on duty 24/7 if observing a danger to the public. (How and where the Engineer can turn to protect the public at that point is another issue – and why we need stronger leadership.) Are police officers licensed? Licensing is often denigrated as being a mere hurdle to newcomers by those who desire to maintain their protected market or turf. Registration indicates responsibility and concomitant authority.

Our PSPE Chester County Chapter was retired

and members dispersed to Delaware County and Valley Forge Chapters when insufficient Members chose to be active. Our Philadelphia Chapter Membership is comprised of many who neither live nor work in Philadelphia, but recognize the Founding Chapter of PSPE (and many other SPEs nationwide) as our best avenue to educate the public and our Legislators as to the value of Registration, and perhaps Licensure.

If the Pennsylvania Legislature accepts the entreaties of many anti-licensure advocates, we may face more competition and costs, but we shall endure. But when (not if) people die as a result of a "I was just following orders" technician, or even a "I followed the best advice of subordinates" CEO, and there is never a clear path to one **person** (and not insurance policy) who was responsible, perhaps the wisdom of Registration will again gain respect.

Monthly Courses

from Program Chair, Joseph Maida, PE

I am pleased to report that the average attendance at our courses/meetings this year has been 28 people. Not bad, but there is room for more. So why attend?

- Opportunity to meet with friends and make new friends
- Convenient location, just a short walk from Suburban Station in a wonderful facility, thanks to Pennoni Associates.
- Good pizza and hoagies
- Interesting topics given by very good instructors.
- Obtain PDHs that are approved for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and most other states.
- Give your opinions on the chapter and what it could do.
- Always start and end on schedule.
- Many others: something to look forward to once a month.

Getting involved, which starts by attending the meetings and courses and leads to become a member of the Board, not only benefits you but is essential to the survival of the Chapter, which needs you more than you need it! So, if you have been thinking about what you can do for your profession and what your profession can do for you, register and come to the courses in March and April.

If cost is a burden or if you decide to come at the last minute, come anyway, we will waive the cost for the food and courses. You will only need to pay for parking or public transportation. I hope to see more of you and increase our monthly attendance to more than 30 in 2019.

OFFICERS

Erik Hoet, PE	President
Fredric Plotnick, PE	President-Elect
vacant	Vice President
Robert Cargill, PE	Past President
Andrew Pockl, PE	Secretary
Chris Fell, PE	Treasurer
Abraham EI	Membership Secretary
Thomas Friese, PE this is a three year position completing in May 2019	State Director
Soheila Rahbari, PE	Alt State Director
Yefim Gudesblat, PE	Chapter Director, 2019
vacant	Chapter Director, 2019
Ed Pluciennik, PE	Chapter Director, 2020
vacant	Chapter Director, 2020
Rick Parisi, PE	Chapter Director, 2021
Robert Cargill, PE	Chapter Director, 2021

Members interested in joining our Board should contact President Erik Hoet at President@PSPE-Philly.org

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.

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



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.

MATHCOUNTS

MathCounts is Saturday, February 9th

MATHCOUNTS is a program sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and its state and local Chapters, promoting excellence in mathematics. Each year, there are competitions to engage 6th, 7th, and 8th graders and recognize the best schools and students on a local, state, and national level.

For those not local to Philadelphia but interested in helping at a MATHCOUNTS competition near you, please consider volunteering with a great program.

To volunteer or for more information contact Abraham El

O: 215-254-7778 | M: 215-796-5261 | AEI@Pennoni.com

To Donate to Mathcounts:

Donate



High School Scholarships

The Philadelphia Chapter of PSPE (Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers) operates a scholarship program open to high school students who either (1) live in or (2) attend high school in the City of Philadelphia. Other Chapters of PSPE may also have scholarship programs geared to students in other counties. Applications for the Philadelphia Chapter program are routinely sent to and may be obtained from your high school guidance department, or on-line at: <http://www.pspe-philly.org/scholarship/scholarship.htm>.

Continuing Education

Engineers licensed In Pennsylvania are required to have completed 24 professional development hours (PDH) before 28sep19. Engineers licensed in many other states also have requirements. PSPE Philadelphia attempts to assist ALL engineers (including non-members of PSPE) meet this need.

We have monthly meetings, most offering up to two hours, reviewed for probable acceptance by PA, NJ and model states, and pre-approved for NY. Our Chapter was instrumental in creation of the [State Continuing Education Boot Camp](#) to acquire all 24 credits within three days. We have recorded many of our own and other presentations for earning of [credits on-line at \\$5 per credit hour](#).

**PSPE Philadelphia is providing
ONLINE PDH Credits
for only \$5/PDH**

[Visit our Online PDH Delivery System Now](#)

[Click HERE](#)

OR

<http://www.pspe-philly.org/MCECourses/BuyNow-1.htm>

There is still time to Register

Thursday, January 3, 2019

Philadelphia Southeast Water

Pollution Control Plant

Course/Tour

Tour - 6:00 to 7:30 PM

[click for more information](#)

Cost is \$10

Reservations at www.pspe-philly.org

