



The Philadelphia Engineer

Founding Chapter 1934 – June 2020 issue

Chapter Annual Meeting
was held May 21, 2020

via Skype and teleconference

for details go to www.pspe-philly.org

Letter from the President

I look forward to serving as President for the Philadelphia Chapter of PSPE for 2020/2021 term.

I've had the good fortune to have been an active member of this Chapter for the last six years. It is a great forum to interact with engineering professionals to appreciate the level of knowledge and capability that exists within the Philadelphia area. There is so much talent amongst the membership motivated by a common value of ethics, strong moral compass, and the safety and well being of the general public.

As President, I want to get to know the membership better and really understand how they feel about the Chapter and what we can collectively do to improve as a Chapter and attract new members as well as getting more active participation of current members. I plan to send out a questionnaire to all Chapter members and solicit input so I can report back to the Board what I've learned and see what programs really make sense to continue. I am also very concerned about the state of the Chapter funds and will encourage our Trustees to develop a strategy that preserves and grows the funds that exist. I want to have a budget that doesn't rely on any monies from the Chapter funds during my term in office. I also want to ensure that there is a committee focused on filling the current open officer slots and making this happen by end of 4Q2020. As a Chapter, I also want to ensure that we are aligned with the direction of the State's initiatives as well as network with Presidents of nearby Chapters to see what is working in their Chapters and what can be learned and applied to the Philadelphia Chapter. I believe that there is a really good opportunity to reach out to the major engineering firms in the city to see how the Chapter can expand its visibility and attract new membership. We need to attract younger members with fresh ideas and able provide a base for the continuity of the Chapter.

Best regards,
Chris Fell, PE

Our New Board 2020-21

As Elected at our Chapter Meeting of April 30th held by Skype and Teleconference

Chris Fell, PE	President
vacant	President-Elect
vacant	Vice President
Fredric L Plotnick, PE	Past President
Linda Douthwaite, PE	Secretary
Abraham EI	Membership Secretary
Linda Douthwaite, PE	Treasurer
Abraham EI	State Director
this is a three year position completing in May 2023	
Thomas Friese, PE	Alt State Director
Rick Parisi, PE	Chapter Director, 2021
Robert Cargill, PE	Chapter Director, 2021
Yefim Gudesblat, PE	Chapter Director, 2022
Justin Alexander, PE	Chapter Director, 2022
Ed Pluciennik, PE	Chapter Director, 2023
vacant	Chapter Director, 2023

directors serve three years completing year noted

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.

SECTION 10. If a vacancy occurs in the office of President-Elect, other than by filling the unexpired term of the President, the office shall remain vacant until the next regular election, at which time both a President and a President-Elect will be elected.

Interested individuals may contact president@pspe-philly.org

#PECON20 modified by Covid-19 Announcing Virtual PE Conference 2020

NSPE is planning to host a suite of online events that will constitute a [Virtual PE Conference](#) in August, around the annual celebration of [PE Day](#), August 5, 2020,

Join us for #PECON21 in



Philadelphia August, 2021

Planning for 2020-2021

Both at and in the months following our Annual Meeting we will be building our Chapter Committees to plan and execute our chapter programs.

MathCounts competition is February, but Abraham El needs volunteers now to help build the MathCounts teams in 6th, 7th and 8th grade schools starting now for re-launch in September.

Contact at MathCounts@pspe-philly.org

Our Chair of Programs Joseph Maida, PE, State PSPE 2018 Engineer of the Year, desires advice, input and assistance. We expect similar to our 2019-20 Program as printed to the right but still needs building.

Contact at programs@pspe-philly.org

Outstanding Engineering Achievement Awards seek help to publicize and encourage nominations (due NOV 23rd)

Contact OEA@pspe-philly.org

Our High School Scholarship Committee needs help to publicize our program to the high schools in Philadelphia. The reductions in counseling staff at many schools has in many cases led to students not being advised of this opportunity.

Contact scholarships@pspe-philly.org

Our Teacher Awards program needs a Chair who can reach down to schools ranging from K-12 to find teachers who promote math, science and the spark to encourage our next generation to consider engineering as a profession.

Contact teachers@pspe-philly.org



Our committee to run our Engineers' Week Banquet is also seeking assistance, both related to the program and in inviting Members and non-Member Engineers and those who work with Engineers to improve our world

Contact eweek@pspe-philly.org

From time to time, our PA Board of Engineers reaches down to our Chapter to investigate Complaints relating to Engineers and the practice of engineering. These are fielded by our Chair Leonard Bernstein, PE, F.NSPE, former President of our Chapter and the State PSPE, but he also looks for help from other Members of PSPE and other Professional Engineers

Contact ethics@pspe-philly.org

Philadelphia Chapter also needs some young talent to assist with our [website](#) and [social media](#). Our webmaster also edits this newsletter, *The Philadelphia Engineer*.

Contact webmaster@pspe-philly.org

And for those who believe our Chapter may do more for Members, other Professional Engineers, others in the fields of engineering, or for the Public Health Safety and Welfare,

Please Contact president@pspe-philly.org

which forwards to current, -Elect, and several past presidents

Philadelphia Chapter Program 2019-2020-2021

We are now developing our program for 2020-21

Those desiring to assist our Chair of Programs: Joseph Maida, to share knowledge, or to suggest a tour or venue for Members and other Engineers to meet and share experiences, please contact Joe at programs@pspe-philly.org.

Our program for last year, 2019-20 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 2019-2020 Program	
Date	Event – Click Event for Details
Sep. 5, 2019	The Rail Park
Sep 19-20, 2019	PSPE State Conference Bethlehem
Sep 26-27, 2019	PhillyChapter Education BootCamp
Oct. 3, 2019	Power Plants 101 Sky Diving Wind Tunnel
Nov. 7, 2019	Smart Cities Amusement Rides
Dec. 5, 2019 SE Regional	DV Region Outstanding Engineering Achievement Program
Dec. 10, 2019 ECP Multi-Society	Annual Multi-Society Meeting DoubleTree 237 Broad â€" 5:30pm
Jan. 9, 2020	Electrical Safety in the Workplace Ethics, Fairness and PE License
Jan. 23 2020	Tour Philadelphia Airport
Feb 1, 2020 MathCounts	Phila Chapter MathCounts at Temple University
Feb. 6, 2020	Legislative Round Table at Chart House Restaurant
Feb 13, 2020 ECP eWeek	Dinner Event by Engineers' Club Doubletree Hotel
Feb 22, 2020 NSPE PA/NJ Engineers' Week Banquet	Greater Philadelphia and Delaware Valley Regional National Engineers' Week Banquet at Chart House Restaurant
Mar 5, 2020	Fracking ASTM Walkway Safety Standards
Apr 30, 2020 Cancelled by Covid	Helical Piles and Geotech at Phila Navy Yard
May 21, 2020	Annual Meeting & Officers Installed

Chapter planning for #PECON20 is on hold as National and State determine impact from Covid-19. At press time we understand much of the Conference will be converted to an online format – but that talks will lead to holding #PECON21 in Philadelphia next year. Your Chapter has given \$1000 from dues and operations to support this National event. PSPE State is also developing a 2020 conference event or online virtual experience. See www.PSPE.org for details.

