



The Philadelphia Engineer

Founding Chapter 1934 – September 2020 issue

2020-21 Chapter Program

The Pennsylvania Society
of Professional Engineers
Philadelphia Chapter

Monthly Courses

September 10, 2020

To be held ON-LINE via Zoom 7PM to 8PM

The ZOOM address for attending the course will be sent to the registered attendee at the email address you provide to PayPal

**Geotechnical Engineering for Foundations
at the Philadelphia Navy Yard
Presented by Robert Jost, PE
GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
[Click HERE for more information](#)**

Pricing is \$5 Course Only, \$10 for Course and PDH Certificate
Special for Chapter Members Course & Certificate \$5
Click www.PSPE-Philly.org for Reservations

Outstanding Engineering Achievement Program

Nominations OPEN

for Projects Completing in 2020

Click <http://pspe-philly.org/oea/OEA.html>

for Guidelines and Nomination Form

Nominations due November 16th

On-line Presentations December 3rd

Top regional projects judged by
Presidents of regional chapters

Winners for 2019:

Professional Systems Engineering
Pennsylvania Capitol Police Integrated
Command Center

Notable: Maida Engineering

Sky Diving Wind Tunnel Power and Drive System

Honorable: Pennoni Associates

Edge Hill Road/Tvson Avenue Improvement Project

Click projects above for PDF of presentation

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
vacant	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

NOMINATIONS for 2021-21 are now OPEN
See **BYLAW 12 – NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF
OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

at <http://pspe-philly.org/bylaws/PhilaChapterBylawsVersion4-7-2005.pdf>

SECTION 1. The nomination of officers and Directors shall be made by a **Nominating Committee**. This committee shall be appointed by the President early in the administrative year, and shall consist of at least five members of the Chapter, in good standing, one of whom shall be the living most recent Past President currently on the rolls of the Chapter, who shall serve as chair of the Committee.

Interested individuals may contact president@pspe-philly.org

PSPE 2020 State Conference
September 24-25
Announcing Virtual PE Conference 2020

[Click HERE for more information](#)

[Registration is Open](#)

Join us for #PECON21 in



Philadelphia August, 2021

Letter from the President

These past few months have been extremely busy for the Philadelphia Chapter. A membership survey was sent out to all active Chapter members. We received a tremendous response that was quite insightful. This feedback was shared with the Board and is being used to shape the programs for the 2020/2021 year. It was recognized that sending our individual e-mails to members (versus a more general survey request) generated interest and the quality of the answers – very transparent and to the point. Of particular importance was how to engage the “next generation” of chapter members. Having a roadmap to marshal Chapter resources for the best “bang for the buck” was a direct product of this survey. I want to extend my thanks for all that provided their feedback and support going forward and I look forward to communicating progress against priority initiatives.

At the July Board meeting, the budget for this fiscal year (June 2020 – July 2021) was approved. Given COVID-19, the activities were individually reviewed and paired back to a “virtual” agenda of activities. It was important to preserve the monthly Chapter meetings, the Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award, Math Counts, and the annual Chapter dinner (February 2021). Joe Maida, the Chairperson for monthly meetings, has put together a plan for a monthly virtual meeting followed by a chance for networking / Q&A. These will be PDH applicable sessions. Virtual media greatly expands the audience participation, eliminates the need for travel, and exposes a much greater Engineering community to the value of the Philadelphia Chapter.

The Board has been meeting monthly – virtual basis – to keep connected and stay focused on key Chapter initiatives. I look forward to continuing to share our progress and welcome your feedback on what is happening. E-mail me @ fell1@aol.com and feel free to call me @ 484-431-1499. Stay connected and stay safe!

Best regards,

Chris Fell, PE, PMP

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

The health and safety of the public and our workers is a priority for the Commonwealth and this agency. The Agency has promulgated and now requests comment upon:

Regulation #16A-4712: Digital Signature and Seal which updates current regulations on seals to be consistent with other design professional boards and incorporates the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying Model Rule on seals on documents. Open until September 21, 2020.

[Click to Download Proposed Regulation](http://www.irrc.state.pa.us/docs/3264/AGENCY/3264PRO.pdf) or go to:
<http://www.irrc.state.pa.us/docs/3264/AGENCY/3264PRO.pdf>



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

MATHCOUNTS®

MathCounts competition is February,

but Chair 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.

MATHCOUNTS®

From our State Director

I am honored to serve as your delegate to the State Society over the next three years. Serving locally in various roles has been a pleasure, and I look forward to now being able to work alongside my peers from other PSPE Chapters.

While the recent months have presented many challenges for us socially, and as engineers, there are still rules we must follow as a professional organization, such as having an Annual Conference. We also must to continue to be an organization dedicated to serving our members and continued promotion of our Core Values.

The PSPE 2020 Conference Planning Committee has done a GREAT job and is excited to bring engineers a schedule of sessions to be presented in an online format. There will be an opportunity to earn up to 6 PDH Credits. You will also be able to participate in the Installation and Awards Celebration, Order of the Engineer Ceremony, exhibits, and even have opportunities for social interaction.

The State Conference will run September 24-25, 2020. We are using a platform called PheedLoop to assemble our virtual conference. You will be able to easily access sessions, exhibits, and the networking feature from a single website with no need to download additional software. Please use this link to register and for more details: <https://www.pspe.org/pspe-2020-conference-agenda/>

The PSPE Board of Directors will meet on Saturday, September 26, 2020 and I look forward to providing you with a report in the following newsletter.

While convening online could never replace being together in person, I encourage you all to take part in this historic 2020 State Conference. Hope to “see” you all there!

Abraham EI – State Director

SAVE THE DATE

2021 NATIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK BANQUET

Hosted by the Philadelphia Chapter

Saturday - February 27, 2021

5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Chart House Restaurant

555 S Christopher Columbus Blvd

Philadelphia, PA 19147

((215) 625-8383 - Free Parking



Letter from the Editor

Our Programs have gone Virtual, bringing some limitations but also many opportunities we may not have previously considered. Board Meetings are better attended and (without the rush to finish before or rush to go home after the Chapter Meeting) are promoting greater discussion and deliberation. An ONLINE aspect to MathCounts we hope will reach MORE students and permit greater opportunity for Members to participate and help mentor. Our signature Outstanding Engineering Achievement program will have greater control over time limits and make the whole program run faster and at lower costs to all participants, Judges and Members.

Covid-19 presents issues, but we are Engineers and will deal with the environment and its issues.

Fredric L. Plotnick, PhD, Esq, PE - editor

From our State & Local MATHCOUNTS®

For many years, you have supported, volunteered and cheered at Chapter, State, and perhaps even National MATHCOUNTS Competitions. Well, our current climate has brought about some major changes.

The 2020-21 MATHCOUNTS Competition Series will be taking place ONLINE!!! This may bring some good news:

- ≥ MORE students from each school can participate.
- ≤ LESS fees for participation
- = EQUALS hopefully more student involvement.

The hope is that Chapter and State Competitions will be held online and we can potentially host a National Competition in the Spring of 2021.

The role of Chapter and State Coordinators may change significantly, so stay tuned for ways you may be able to help with our upcoming competitions. To learn about the 2020-21 program format, click the link below.

<https://www.mathcounts.org/programs/competition-series>

Our Philadelphia Chapter MATHCOUNTS Committee thanks all of you for your continued support. We look forward to continuing to do our part to help keep MATHCOUNTS the premier middle school mathematics program in the country!

Abraham EI, Chair State and Chapter MathCounts

