

DETROIT METRO P.E.N.

Michigan Society of Professional Engineers

A newsletter published by the Detroit Metro Chapter of MSPE www.mspe-detroit.org

February / March 2001

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DETROIT METRO and OAKLAND CHAPTERS OF MSPE & ASCE SOUTHEASTERN BRANCH GEOTECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Presents:

A continuing segment in our series on alternative dispute resolution:

CONTROLLING CONSTRUCTION DISPUTES THROUGH THE USE OF ESCROW BID DOCUMENTS AND GEOTECHNICAL BASELINE REPORTS: CONCEPTS AND CURRENT PRACTICE

Presentation: Construction disputes and associated cost overruns seem to have become an inevitable part of many types of construction projects, and several forms of "alternative dispute resolution" have been developed in an attempt to reduce the overall cost of such disputes. This presentation and panel discussion will focus on the increasing use of "escrow bid documents" and "geotechnical baseline reports" to define the site conditions and the bid assumptions, reduce the risk on all sides of the table, and help resolve disputes before they lead to litigation. Several engineering professionals that have been involved in this process will share their insights and opinions.

Mr. Fritz Klingler (Vice President, NTH Consultants) will provide a general overview of the process and discuss the designer's viewpoint; Mr. Roger Van Omen (Former Chief Engineer of Wayne County Dept. of Environment - DPW) will discuss the municipal owner's viewpoint; Mr. Tom DiPonio (President of Jay Dee Contractors) will present the contractor's viewpoint, and Mr. Jerry Neyer (Chairman Emeritus of NTH Consultants) will provide insights from his role as a member on several dispute review boards. Following the discussions, the group will form a panel and answer questions from the audience.

Date: Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Dinner & Program: Embassy Suites Livonia – From Interstate 275, take Seven Mile Road exit, then turn east on Seven Mile. Turn left at first traffic signal, Victor Parkway. Hotel is on the west side of Victor Parkway, ¼ mile north of Seven Mile.

Agenda: 5:30 pm - Cash Bar
6:15 pm – Dinner (Chicken w/Lemon Sauce, salad, desert, bev)
7:00 pm - Program
8:15 pm - Program Conclusion

Cost: \$28 per person for dinner - Register by February 27, 2001

Please reserve before February 27, 2001, with Ms. Natera Farrington at (313)965-0036
If you have questions, please contact Fritz Klingler at (313)965-0036



MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS DETROIT METRO CHAPTER

President's Message

By Carey J. Suhan, P.E.

Engineers Week 2001

Remember that the 50th National Engineers Week is February 18 – 24. Take this week as an opportunity to promote engineering as a career to students, especially to non-engineers, and to highlight the contributions that engineers have made to society. It's a reminder to be proud of your profession and the impact that each engineer has on the world we live in. Information about Engineers Week activities can be found at www.eweek.org. Such activities and initiatives include "Introduce a girl to engineering day" and "Fifty ways one engineer can make a difference."

At the local level activities occurring during Engineers Week are the MSPE/ACEC Design and Construction Awards on February 24th at the Tiger Club at Comerica Park and the ESD Gold Awards on February 21 at the Somerset Inn in Troy. Two of our very own members will be receiving MSPE Detroit Metro Chapter awards at the Gold Awards! Fritz Klingler will receive engineer of the year and Dr. James Hanson will receive young engineer of the year. Hopefully you are registered for these events. If not, you can call ESD at 248-355-2910.

Programs

The following programs have been scheduled or are in the planning stages:

February 21	ESD Gold Awards (Somerset Troy)
February 24	MSPE/ACEC Awards (Tiger Club)
March 6	Alternative Dispute Resolution (flyer enclosed)
March 21	Young Engineers Forum (flyer enclosed)
April 20 & 21	Central Region Spring Meeting (flyer enclosed)
April 25	Focus Hope tour and program (flyer enclosed)
May	DWSD WWTP Program Management
May 17 - 20	MSPE Annual Conference at Shanty Creek
June	Metro Detroit Chapter Annual Meeting
July 25 – 31	NSPE National Meeting Detroit (info enclosed)

NSPE Annual Convention

The convention will be here sooner than you think. Please see the enclosed article for additional information. To make this meeting a success, volunteers will be needed to help out during the event. Volunteers will enjoy **FREE** registration and parking for the day. Contact me at (248) 588-6200 or at c.suhan@tectest.com to volunteer. Don't miss this opportunity to attend a national convention in your own back yard!

DETROIT METRO CHAPTER OF MSPE
&
ASCE SOUTHEASTERN BRANCH
Presents:

A TOUR AND DISCUSSION OF THE NEW FORD FIELD (LIONS STADIUM) PROJECT

- Tour: A guided tour of the New Ford Field site will be conducted by the Hammes Company., and will include a walking tour of the stadium substructure and superstructure areas, and will allow you to be one of the first to stand on the future site of Superbowl XL. Boots, hardhat, and glasses are required!
- Presentation: Following the tour, dinner will be served at Hunter House Hamburgers (near Intermezzo in Harmonie Park) near the new stadium site. A presentation and discussion of several of the many design and construction challenges of this landmark project will follow dinner. The presentation will led by representatives of the Smith Group, the lead architects on the project.
- Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2001
- Tour Location: The stadium is located 3 blocks east of Woodward Avenue, immediately south of I-75. Tentative plans are to park and meet in the parking area on the north side of the stadium, in front of the job site trailer complex. **Please note that the on-site meeting location will be finalized in the next issuance of this flyer.**
- Dinner & Program: Hunter House Hamburgers
1427 Randolph Center – Harmonie Park (South of DAC and north of Gratiot)
Detroit, Michigan
313-965-0265
- Agenda: 4:00 pm - Tour of Site
5:30 pm – Social Hour at Hunter House
6:15 pm - Dinner
7:00 pm - Program
8:15 pm - Program Conclusion
- Cost: \$24 per person for dinner (prepaid) - Register by March 31, 2001

Since we anticipate this being a highly attended event, reservations are limited. Please make reservations before March 31, 2001, with Ms. Patricia Dwojak at (313)965-0036. If you have questions, please contact Fritz Klingler or Mike Miller at (313)965-0036

Mail checks to: NTH Consultants, Ltd.
277 Gratiot, Suite 600
Detroit, Michigan 48226 Attn: Mike Miller

Make Check Payable to ↩ASCE Southeastern Branch↪
Please indicate on the check the date and title of the program you will be attending

MSPE Detroit Metro Chapter News

GET LICENSED, GET AHEAD - THE IMPORTANCE OF A P.E. Panel Discussion March 8, 5:30-6:30, Lawrence Technological University

On March 8, 2001, Lawrence Technological University's American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter in conjunction with the MSPE is holding a panel discussion in Room A200 – the auditorium in the Architecture Building at LTU (located at the corner of 10 Mile Road and Northwestern). The panel will consist of Jay Ruby, P.E., president-elect of the MSPE Oakland Chapter, Dave “Jack” Sattelmeier, P.E., President, MSPE Oakland Chapter, and Greg Smith, P.E., P.S., Past-President, MSPE Oakland Chapter. John Tocco, a civil engineer and lawyer, will moderate the panel discussion. The event will consist of a 30-minute presentation followed by 30 minutes of Q & A. The topics that will be discussed include: salary, career issues, credibility and liability issues, and the masters degree as the first professional degree. All local professionals and engineering students from local universities are invited. Light refreshments will be provided.

NSPE 2001 ANNUAL CONVENTION & EXPO IN DETROIT!!

Did you ever wonder if you would have the chance to attend and participate in an NSPE National Convention? If you weren't here in 1980 when the convention was last in Detroit, you may wonder. Fortunately for all of us, the 2001 NSPE Annual Convention is coming to Detroit in July. This will be an event that you won't want to miss. The convention will be held at the Renaissance Center Marriott hotel from July 26 through July 30. This will be a chance for MSPE and our local Detroit area chapters to show visitors from all over the country what a great place Detroit is.

The convention will include many activities including tours of local interest, technical seminars and presentations on the future of the engineering profession. Activities get started on Thursday July 26 with a 3k/5k walk / run followed by several local tours and end with an evening reception that will include a presentation on Detroit's 300th birthday. Friday's activities will include a keynote session featuring Mayor Archer followed by seminars and the engineering exposition. Saturday's events will include the Order of the Engineer Ceremony and additional professional education opportunities. Saturday night will include a dinner cruise on the Detroit River.

The local host committee is working hard to make sure that the convention is full of activities that will interest our visitors and make their trip to Detroit memorable. To make the convention come off without a hitch, we will need numerous volunteers from the local Detroit area chapters to assist in everything from tours to the professional education seminars. So please put the dates in your calendar and plan to be part of the convention in Detroit. To volunteer to help with the meeting, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Carey Suhan at (248) 588-6200.

To get more details on the convention, see the enclosed convention schedule and continuing education information or visit the NSPE web page at www.nspe.org.

See you this July in downtown Detroit!