

TEXAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS



VOLUME 2007, NUMBER 7

OCTOBER 2007

From the President's Desk....

Well, the first month of the TSPE year is behind us! I would like to extend a special "thank you" to Senator Leticia VanDePutte for speaking to our membership in September. She is a friend to the Engineering Community and an advocate in Austin. She has a personal interest in our profession as well – her son is a Civil Engineering student at Texas Tech University.

You have one more day – Today! – to sign up for Monday's ethics seminar. Monday, October 1, 2007 at the Villita Assembly Hall located behind CPS Energy. The doors open at 11:00 AM for registration, so arrive early as this event is always well attended. Back by popular demand, Dr. Ray James from Texas A&M is our speaker again this year. We got such positive feedback about his presentation last year – don't miss this opportunity to hear cutting edge information.

Don't forget to check our website at (www.bexartspe.org). You will find more information about other TSPE sponsored events such as MathCounts and PEG Training Day. Did you know that we have one of the only active Professional Engineers in Government (PEG) Chapters in the Country? What an opportunity other communities are missing out on!

It takes a ton of work to run this organization. Your attendance at our events and meetings is important and vital. Come and enjoy each others company, network and learn about the issues that effect our profession! Thank an officer of TSPE for their effort and service!

Sincerely,
H. Michael Coyle, Jr., P.E.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

OCTOBER 2

Chapter Board Meeting
7:00 am, Pape-Dawson

OCTOBER 5

PEPP Executive Committee Meeting
7:00 am, Arias and Associates

OCTOBER 10

PEG General Membership Meeting
7:30 am, TBA

OCTOBER 20

Mathcounts Practice Competition
11:30 am, AT&T Center

OCTOBER 24

PEPP Membership Meeting
6:45 am, The Barn Door

OCTOBER 26

Frosty Friday
6:00 pm, TBA

Note: For reservations call Paula Frost at Frost GeoSciences, Inc. by noon the Friday preceding the lunch or dinner (unless otherwise noted). Phone: 372-1315 fax: 372-318, email pfrost@frostgeosciences.com (Please place "TSPE" in the subject line). [Http://bexartspe.org/](http://bexartspe.org/)

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 20

Math Counts
10:30 am, AT&T Center

DECEMBER 3

Annual TSPE/ASCE/Auxiliary
Holiday Party
6:30 pm, Petroleum Club

MEETINGS

**BEXAR CHAPTER TSPE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 4, 2007**

SPEAKERS: Dr. Ray W. James, P.E., Ph.

SUBJECT: Public Health, Safety, Welfare and the Environment. The Responsibilities of the Engineer.

DATE: October 1, 2007

TIME: Registration & Networking: 11:00 am to 11:30 pm
Lunch and Speaker: 11:30pm to 1:00 pm

LOCATION: La Villita Assembly Building (CPS Round House)
NE Corner of S. Presa St. & Villita St. Downtown

COST: TSPE members with reservations \$20.00
TSPE members without reservation NA
Non-Members \$30.00
Students \$5.00

RSVP: Deadline: September 28, 2007 by 3:00 p.m.
No shows are responsible for payment

CONTACT: Paula Frost, Frost Geosciences
email: pfrost@frostgeosciences.com
phone (210) 372-1315
Please provide Name, Company Name, Phone Number, and Member/Nonmember/Student Status

NOTE: **“Reservations Required”**
This meeting will provide 1.0 PDH’s



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 **BEXAR TSPE WEBPAGE**

The TSPE, Bexar Chapter webpage is online. Our web address is www.bexartspe.com. The webpage has important chapter information including an officer list and calendar of upcoming events!



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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Professional Engineers In Government's Order of the Engineer Ceremony



On May 4th, the Texas Society of Professional Engineers' Bexar Chapter, Professional Engineers in Government, provided training and an opportunity for twenty-two of our San Antonio Area engineers to be inducted into the Order of the Engineer. According to TSPE President Richard Liesse, This was the largest number of inductees in one Ring Ceremony conducted by TSPE. Included were eight of TxDOT's San Antonio District engineers. These engineers proudly committed themselves to the Obligation of an Engineer as part of the Order of the Engineer.

The Order fosters a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession. It presents to the public a visible symbol of identifying an engineer. The symbol is a Ring worn on the fifth finger of the working hand by engineers who have accepted the

Obligation of an Engineer in a Ring Ceremony. The ring signifies the engineers' pledge to practice integrity and fair dealing, tolerance and respect, and to uphold to the standards and dignity of the profession.

So, why go through the ceremony when the Professional Engineer license legally binds each engineer to practice ethically? The Ceremony and the worn ring shows to the public the obligation and the pride an engineer has in his or her profession. The engineer publicly voices his obligations to a group of professional peers who witness the ceremony.

The ceremony is most befitting those of us who have chosen to be public servants in our profession. As engineers in government, we are held to a higher standard because we directly hold the public's trusts in providing the best public projects. Our projects directly impact each citizen daily; therefore, our obligation is to practice ethically and with integrity to the highest standards of protecting the health, safety, property, and welfare of the public

As the Southwest Vice Chair for National Society of Professional Engineers, Professional Engineers in Government, it has been one of my dreams to see each PEG engineer join the Order of the Engineer and proudly show our commitment to our profession. Also, as a TxDOT engineer, I have been encouraging my fellow TxDOT engineers to consider joining the Order and becoming active in PEG.

The Order has no meetings, no dues; it is a one time ceremony and a purchase of a stainless ring at nominal cost, but the pride of the Order is one we can live with every day in the practice of our profession.

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Annual TSPE/ASCE/Auxiliary Holiday Party

TSPE Auxiliary News:

The Auxiliary to the Bexar Chapter Texas Society of Professional Engineers kicked off the 2007-2008 year on Tuesday, October 6th with a New Member Coffee and the annual White Elephant Auction. A good turnout was on hand to help raise money for the Professional Engineer's Scholarship Fund. Many thanks to Mrs. Colleen Miller who hosted our first meeting of the year. We have a great team of officers serving this year and they are: Mrs. Lisa Medrano, President; Mrs. Kristen Dunn, President-Elect; Mrs. Teresa Moczygemba, First Vice-President; Mrs. Kathy Johnson, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Colleen Miller, Secretary; Mrs. Mary Brogan, Treasurer; and Mrs. Beth Coyle, Parliamentarian. Many thanks to them as well for volunteering their time to the Auxiliary and the TSPE.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 6th at 10:30 a.m. We are welcoming all spouses (come on you busy engineers!) to join us as we tour the beautiful campus of the Engineering & Technology Academy at Roosevelt High School. This is an amazing program that is preparing our local high school students for a career in the exciting world of engineering and technology. We will be meeting at the Rough Rider Inn (cafeteria) at the campus of Roosevelt High School for lunch and a quick meeting followed by a tour of the Academy.

Don't forget the holidays are approaching fast. **The Annual TSPE/ASCE/Auxiliary Holiday Party** will be held on Monday, December 3, at the Petroleum Club. Social hour begins at 6:30 that evening with the buffet dinner starting at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now for a night of good food and fun.

We want your spouse!!! Please give them a copy of this newsletter! New members are always welcome in the Auxiliary. If you would like more information or would like to join our organization, please contact Lisa Medrano, President at 651-7136 or 493-0962.

Subject: Annual TSPE/ASCE/Auxiliary Holiday Party

Date: Monday, December 3, 2007

Time: 6:30 p.m. Social Hour 7:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner

Location: Petroleum Club

Cost: TBA

RSVP & Contact: TBA

Note: TSPE members, ASCE members, Auxiliary members, invited.

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES



FROSTY FRIDAYS



Frosty Fridays are social and networking events generally held the last Friday of each month (September through May) as a service and benefit to the Bexar Chapter membership. Members and their dates or spouses have an opportunity to socialize in an informal, relaxed setting. Frosty Fridays are especially good opportunities for student and young members to network and investigate career options. Light snacks are provided by the Bexar Chapter.

The October Frosty Friday will be on October 26, 2007 from 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm at Karma. Karma is located approximately 1/2 mile south of Loop 410 at 8123 Broadway on the west side of Broadway. (MAPSCO 551 C8).

Frosty Forster will be your host at this event.

Please mark your calendar and save these date! Hope to see you there!



COME OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN!



CHEERS!

Changed Employment or Address Lately?

Have you changed your address or employment status lately? Remember that the Texas Board of Professional Engineers per section 137.5 of the Engineering Practice act requires that you notify them within 30 days of the change.

§137.5 Notification of Address Change, Employer Change, and Criminal Convictions

- (a) Each license holder shall notify the Board in writing not later than 30 days after of a change in the person’s personal mailing address or employment status.
- (b) A notice informing the Board of a change in employment status shall include, as applicable, the :
 - (1) full legal trade or business name of the association or employment,
 - (2) physical location and mailing address of the business,
 - (3) telephone number of the business office,
 - (4) type of business (corporation, assumed name, partnership, or self-employment through use of own name),
 - (5) legal relationship and position of responsibility within the business,
 - (6) effective date of this change; and
 - (7) reason for this notification (changed employment or retired; firm went out of business or changed its name or location, etc.).
- (c) Each license holder shall notify the Board in writing not later than 30 days after a misdemeanor or felony criminal conviction.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Math Counts

The TSPE Bexar Chapter MathCounts Committee is looking for volunteers for the 4th Annual Spurs/MATHCOUNTS Mathletes® In Action Competition on Saturday, October 20, 2007. All middle schools in Texas are receiving invitations to this competition. We are hoping to attract approximately 100 teams (400 Mathletes®) to participate in this landmark event for the Bexar Chapter.

Volunteer opportunities include proctoring the exams (watching for cheating) and grading exams. No math skills are needed! All volunteers will receive a free game ticket for that night's game (versus the Detroit Pistons) and may also purchase additional discounted tickets for that night's game for \$19 each (the ticket value is \$26.35) for friends/family who are not volunteering but would like to attend the game after the competition. Tickets will be distributed to the volunteers when they arrive for the competition at the AT&T Center. In addition, the Spurs Coyote will entertain the Mathletes® at the end of their competition. We will provide pizza lunch for all volunteers at the competition.

Volunteers must report to the arena @ 10:30 am. The competition begins at 11:30 pm and ends at 4:00pm. The Spurs are setting aside a block of tickets not only for the students but also for the volunteers who participate in order to keep everyone together and to enjoy the fellowship. However, we will need the names of those who are kind enough to help. Therefore volunteers should contact John Krauss, P.E. @ 210-375-9000 (x358) or jkrauss@pape-dawson.com to RSVP for the event no later than October 1. Money for additional tickets will also be due to John Krauss by October 1.

This event will provide a very positive image for engineering and is the first of its kind in Texas. For further information, contact Ray Medrano 375-9000 (x390) or Robin Simmons 375-9000 (x429).

REMINDER

CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

October 2, 7:00 am at Pape-Dawson



TSPE-Bexar Chapter
P.O. Box 790691
San Antonio, Texas 78279-0691