

Texas Society of Professional Engineers **Bexar Chapter**

VOLUME 2010, NUMBER 6

SEPTEMBER 2010

From the President's Desk...

Greetings to my Fellow Professional Engineers:

I hope everyone had a great summer and had plenty of time to spend with family and friends. We had a great year last year and I look forward to having another great year this year. I would like to recognize Laura Campa for her leadership last year. Laura has been and continues to be a "go to" person for TSPE. Laura, thank you very much for your leadership and keep up the good work!

For several years now, we in the Chapter and both TSPE and NSPE in general have been concerned with the image of the Professional Engineer in the minds of the general public and its importance to our abilities as engineers to discharge one of the most fundamental aspects of our profession: Protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The P.E. designation isn't just another technical credential. It's a sign of an individual's dedication to a profession that requires a higher level of care and ethics. It's a statement that we all make as engineers when we sign and seal our work as Professional Engineers: "I have designed this and I am sure that it is safe and will do what it is supposed to do." Where doctors and attorneys may affect the lives of only a few at a time, our work as engineers touches the lives of untold billions around the world every second of every day.

The Bexar Chapter and TSPE have conducted membership surveys to see where our members stand on various issues concerning our membership. Overwhelmingly, our members have indicated that promotion of the profession is the most important aim of TSPE and Bexar Chapter. It is clear that our membership recognizes the importance of conveying to the general public the importance of our role in everyday life. However, our recognition of the problem alone is not enough to solve it. As engineers, we need to commit ourselves to taking on the role of ambassador and leader and carrying that message to the public. We need to take the time to reach out to help others understand what it means to be a P.E. and how important that is to our way of life. We on the Bexar Chapter board of directors are committed to promoting and protecting the Professional Engineer in Texas. I call on all of you as Professional Engineers or Engineers-In-Training who will one day be a P.E. to take the time to be that ambassador or leader with others. The only way we can reach those outside of our profession is to go out and let them know who we are.

There are many ways to show that leadership inside the Chapter as well. We look forward to another great year of MATHCOUNTS and Engineering Technology Challenge. As always, we are looking for volunteers to serve those events as well as on board committees and the Engineer's Week committee. We are also looking to broaden representation on our board from the various practice divisions, including PEG, PEE, and PEI. We continue to have a strong PEPP Chapter. Furthermore, the PEC Division has been and continues to be well represented by Rich Boher, P.E. If you are interested in serving in any of these capacities, please contact me or someone on the board.

In closing, I would like to say that I am honored to serve as President of this august organization. I have learned so much from so many of you, both as a Professional Engineer and as a person. I look forward to serving you and to another great year for the Bexar Chapter!

Sincerely,

E. Allen Dunn, III, P.E.
TSPE Bexar Chapter President



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MEETING

SEPTEMBER CHAPTER LUNCH MEETING

SPEAKERS:

- Congressman Lamar Smith (General Meeting)
- Julia Harrod, PE (Technical Session)

DATE: September 13

TIME: Technical Session: 10:30 a.m.
General Meeting: 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Anne Maries at Devonshire
12475 Starcrest Dr.
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(210) 545-2249

COST: \$25.00 member
\$30.00 non-member
\$5.00 student

RSVP: RSVP online at: www.saasce.org
Deadline: Friday, September 10

NOTE: 1 PDH Credit per meeting

BEXAR TSPE WEBPAGE



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



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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

“Executive Board Minutes”

May 3, 2010 - The Barn Door Restaurant, 8400 N. New Braunfels, San Antonio, TX 78209

(Meeting Minutes will be issued at a later date)



SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

September 13

Chapter Board Meeting
9:00am, Pape Dawson

September 13

Chapter Lunch Meeting
10:30 am, Technical Session
11:30 am, General Meeting
Anne Maries at Devonshire

The Bexar Chapter TSPE is looking for volunteers to help fill the officers and directors vacancies listed on page 3.

Please contact Allen Dunn for details at 342-9377.

Announcement from the Editor...

Contribute to your chapter and community by submitting engineering related articles. Articles may be eligible for PDH time so hurry up and submit yours. The **October Newsletter deadline** for receiving articles or advertisements is **September 17**. If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me by email at: Shaun.condor@saws.org or by phone at (210) 233-3410.

Sincerely,

Shaun Condor, P.E., P.M.P.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



September Guest Speaker - Congressman Lamar Smith

Congressman Lamar Smith represents the 21st Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. As a fifth generation Texan, Smith has maintained strong ties with the people he serves in Texas while taking an active role in achieving policy solutions for our country.

He has left his imprint on public policy through a variety of leadership positions and by advancing dozens of pieces of legislation.

He introduced and successfully advanced the passage of a 1996 immigration reform bill. This legislation was the most far-reaching reform of America's immigration laws since the 1960s.

For his work to remedy outdated provisions in our intellectual property laws, Smith has been named one of the nation's top "influencers and innovators" by Fast Company Magazine, which serves the technology industry.

Because of his leadership in these areas, in 2007 Smith was selected by his House colleagues as the Ranking Republican Member of the Judiciary Committee. As the top Republican, he helps shape committee policy on crime, immigration, intellectual property, and constitutional issues.

Smith also serves on both the Homeland Security Committee, which considers legislation involving the war on terror, and the Science and Technology Committee, which has jurisdiction over renewable energy policies, environmental research, and America's space program.

He is a former Chairman of the Ethics Committee and a former member of the Budget Committee. During his time on the Budget Committee, Congress achieved the first balanced budget in over twenty years and Smith established himself as a fiscal conservative focused on reining in federal spending.

Smith is also a member of the House Republican Steering Committee, which is responsible for appointing members and chairmen of committees.

He is a founding member of both the [Media Fairness Caucus](#) and the [Reclaim American Jobs Caucus](#).

A native of San Antonio, Congressman Smith graduated from Yale University and Southern Methodist University School of Law. Before his election to Congress, he practiced law, managed a family ranch and began his public service as a Texas state representative and Bexar County Commissioner. He and his wife, Beth, have a two adult children.

The 21st Congressional District includes portions of Bexar and Travis Counties and all of Comal, Real, Kerr, Bandera, Kendall and Blanco Counties. The district's population is about 700,000.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

MATHCOUNTS

The TSPE Bexar Chapter MATHCOUNTS Committee is looking for volunteers for the 7th Annual Spurs/ MATHCOUNTS Mathletes® In Action Competition on Saturday, October 16, 2010. 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! We give our volunteers see a copy of the answers to use for grading. All volunteers will receive a free game ticket for that night’s game (versus the Caja Laboral) and may also purchase additional discounted tickets for that night’s game for \$20 each (the ticket value is \$25.35) 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 the competition. We will provide lunch for all volunteers at the competition.

Volunteers must report to the arena at 10:45 am. The competition is scheduled to begin at 12:30 pm and end at 4:00 pm. 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 willing to help. Volunteers should contact John Krauss, P.E. at 210.375.9000 (x 358) or jkrauss@pape-dawson.com to RSVP for the event no later than September 30. Money for additional tickets will also be due to John Krauss by September 30. For additional information, please contact Laura Force at 210.375.9000 x434 or MATHCOUNTS@pape-dawson.com.

For information about MATHCOUNTS go to <http://mathcounts.org/>. Check out the problem of the week to get an idea about the math questions the 6th, 7th and 8th graders will be facing on competition day.

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Full page ad	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	N/A

shaun.condor@saws.org

October Newsletter Deadline - September 17

“Post Your Engineering Related Article Here”

It is **FREE** and you might receive **PDH time** for it
Please contact Shaun Condor, P.E., P.M.P. for details

shaun.condor@saws.org

October Newsletter Deadline - September 17

REMINDER

CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

September 13, 2010 9:00 am
at Pape Dawson



TSPE
Texas Society of Professional Engineers
Bexar Chapter

TSPE-Bexar Chapter
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