

# Erie /Niagara Chapter, NYS Society of Professional Engineers

## Bulletin

Frank P. Roma, P.E. - Editor

Volume 20 Issue No. 2



**November 2002**

### **President's Message**

*John Frandina, P.E.*

We're in great shape as we head toward the close of another calendar year. Our Officers and Directors are focused, our budget is balanced, and programs outlined. I'm also very encouraged by the activity in our membership, which has shown a significant increase. Our recent success story is the University at Buffalo student chapter. As mentioned in the last President's message, UB's student chapter was in the process of being reinstated. Since then, they not only have received their charter, but have achieved the 'alpha' status, which is the highest possible granted by the NSPE. Their student membership has gone from non-existent to approximately 50 members in the past six months. Again, I would like to thank Kannan Nagarajan, EIT, President of the student chapter, for his efforts and endless enthusiasm for making that endeavor a reality and success. It was great meeting many of these members and having the honor of inducting them into the Society at our joint meeting in September held at the UB campus.

The golf outing with the AIA in August was well attended and once again a success. I'd like to thank Ed Watts PE, Mark Bajorek PE, John Didonato PE, and Tony Thomas PE, for their time and energy organizing the event, getting sponsors,

and coordinating the activities on behalf of the Erie/Niagara PE Chapter.

Peter McClive, PE, has put together a slate of programs that will be of interest to many of you, your spouses, guests and/or friends. All are welcome. I hope to see you there.

On September 18, 2002, the National Society of Professional Engineers and the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding. According to the NSPE, the goal of the partnership is to "develop current and future construction engineering and management professionals to broaden the range of professional abilities that are needed to address 21st century challenges." NSPE and CMAA plan to collaborate in many areas including providing representation at each other's national conventions, supporting the promotion of licensure and certification, and identifying additional potential partnerships. NSPE's Professional Engineers in Construction practice division recommended the partnership at the Society's 2002 Annual Convention & Expo in July.

The NSPE's website ([www.NSPE.org](http://www.NSPE.org)) has been further enhanced with many features, news, benefit information and useful links.

### **Did you know? .....**

*NSPE represents engineering professionals from all disciplines and promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, and enhances the image and well-being of its members. Founded in 1934, NSPE serves about 58,000 members and the public through 53 state territorial societies and more than 500 chapters.*

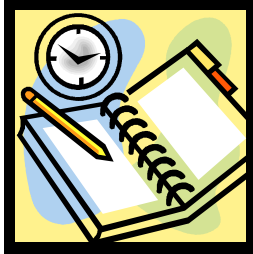
If anyone has any suggestions or would like to get involved, contact me at:  
[john.j.frandina@delphiauto.com](mailto:john.j.frandina@delphiauto.com) or 716-439-2433.

# NYSSPE ERIE/NIAGARA CHAPTER

<http://www.erieniagarape.org>

email: [nysspe@buffnet.net](mailto:nysspe@buffnet.net)

## Erie/ Niagara Chapter Meeting Schedule



### November

#### Thursday, 11/21/02

Annual Dinner Meeting with the Niagara Chapter Professional Engineers of Ontario.

In Canada at the Renaissance Fallsview Hotel, 6455 Fallsview Boulevard, Niagara Falls, Ontario. Start time 5:45 PM.

Elindoro Rodriguez II will be speaking on :  
*"Making Effective Career Development Decisions Using Personal Finance Skills"*.

### December

No Meeting

### January

#### Tuesday, 01/28/03

Roller Coaster Design. Presentation by fellow NYSSPE members Mark Glynn and Andres Huerta.

### February

#### Friday, 02/21/03

Engineers Week Awards Banquet

### March

#### Thursday, 03/20/02

Joint meeting w/ Technical Societies Council

### April

#### Friday, 04/25/02

Legislative Breakfast Forum

### May

#### Thursday, 05/22/02

Officer Installation Banquet

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# BULLETIN

## UB Chapter Restarted



*Nagarajan Kannan, President of UB's Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers, John Frandina, President of NSPE local chapter, Dean Millar, Assistant Dean of Engineering receiving official ALPHA level chapter inception Certificate.*

The University at Buffalo chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers held its inaugural meeting Wednesday evening in Bonner Hall. The event marked the inception of the only collegiate chapter in Western New York.

John Frandina, PE, President of the Erie-Niagara Chapter of NSPE, presented an official "Member of Chapter" Certificate of the new organization. The group received the alpha-level award, the highest level possible for a student chapter. Both local professional NSPE members and newly initiated students were present for the ceremony.

"This represents what the school of engineering is all about," said Dean C. Millar, Assistant Dean for corporate relations in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, in his opening remarks. "That is a partnership between industry and, of course, developing students who are able to create value for you in industry."

Nagarajan Kannan, President and initiator of the UB chapter, explained the significance of his involvement with the NSPE. He said that he is a

link to the engineering industry because he works in the industry and is also a student.

Kannan began planning UB's NSPE chapter in 2001, and he said he is pleased with the results of his efforts. The organization currently has close to 30 members, composed of both graduate and undergraduate engineering students.

He feels that being affiliated with the organization will help produce qualified technical students that have business success skills. He said the NSPE would provide for contact between industry employers and students through seminars and workshops. There are also monthly publications available for members, as well as discounted driver insurance rates.

One of Kannan's plans for this year is a contest titled "Why Engineering?" where students will win prizes for designing posters that demonstrate how engineering is needed in every walk of life. He is also promoting the Oct. 10 "Break on Fatalities Day," which will be a day dedicated to promoting safe driving.

He said he wants the student chapter to produce students who can apply ethical principles to the workplace and everywhere else. He also said, NSPE students are encouraged to work toward an official engineering license. With this license, engineers are considered professionals. The license allows the student to sign contracts or run a private practice, and often leads to better job opportunities and higher pay.

The license gives those who own it, a better safeguard against losing jobs in the event of company layoffs, restructuring or consolidation, Kannan said. With his hard working effort, in supporting the students who take EIT examination, this year's local NSPE club sponsored coaching class has 45 students. This is an increase of close to 100% compared to last year students.

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email: [nysspe@buffnet.net](mailto:nysspe@buffnet.net)

There are reciprocal benefits for the university in having the NSPE chapter. If and when the number of students who take and pass the licensing exam increases, UB's rank as a successful engineering school also increases.

According to professional NSPE members in attendance, students who are affiliated with the group will be a great advantage once they enter the work force. "(Membership) will age your career considerably," said Ken King, PE, former president of the Erie chapter of the NSPE.



*Ken King, PE,*



*Charles Nasca, President of the Student Chapter American Society of Mechanical Engineers, presenting the solar powered boat and the human powered vehicle.*



*Michael Ryan, Professor and Associate Dean, School of Engineering, addressing the meeting*

Those interested in joining /supporting/knowing more about the UB chapter can contact Kannan at [contour@froggernet.com](mailto:contour@froggernet.com). You can also reach him at 716-481-9312.

### **TSC Engineering Seminar for High School Students**

The TSC Engineering Opportunities program will be presenting an Engineering Seminar with Erie 1 BOCES on November 7<sup>th</sup> at their Maryvale Annex. Engineering volunteers have been assembled for civil, electrical, chemical, environmental, aerospace, ceramics, and nuclear engineering to talk to high school students about career opportunities in the field of engineering. Volunteers are welcome. Please contact Irv Reinig, Chairperson, TSC Engineering Opportunities Committee at (716) 681-2587 for further details.

# BULLETIN

## Erie/ Niagara Chapter Scholarships



Do you know of any deserving high school seniors interested in pursuing a career in engineering who would benefit from receiving a scholarship from NSPE?

Each year, the Chapter awards two scholarships to area high school students who excel both academically and in extracurricular activities and who intend to pursue careers in engineering. The Li S. Liu, P.E. Memorial Scholarship is given annually to a high school senior from Western New York who is accepted into an accredited engineering program. Li S. Liu, P.E. was one of our chapter's greatest supporters. He was President in 1978-79 and continued to work endlessly with the student chapters and in membership recruitment for our chapter until his death in 1991.

The Richard Wohler, P.E. Memorial/Hutch-Tech High School Scholarship is presented annually to a senior from Hutch Tech High School in Buffalo, NY who is accepted into an accredited engineering program. Richard Wohler, P.E., bequeathed this scholarship to our Chapter upon his death at the age of 92 in 1992. Mr. Wohler served as Treasurer/ Membership Secretary from 1951 until 1977 when the duties were split. He retained the position of Membership Secretary from 1977 until 1986. He served a record 35 years of continuous service as a chapter officer. Our Chapter's dedicated service award was renamed the Basinski-Wohler Award in his honor in 1980.

Funding for these Scholarships is provided by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo and

last year totaled over \$2700. The deadline for next year's Chapter Scholarships is April 1, 2003.

NSPE also offers scholarships at the State and National levels to high school students, current engineering students and engineers pursuing graduate studies. The deadline for the national high school scholarship is December 2, 2002.

More information about Scholarships can be found on the Chapter web site: [www.erieniagarape.org](http://www.erieniagarape.org) and National web site: [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org) or by contacting Dr. Tony Eberhardt, P.E. at 879-4257.

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# NYSSPE ERIE/NIAGARA CHAPTER

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## Golf Tournament Big Success



*Standing: John DiDonato, PE of DiDonato Associates, Matt Moscati of TRM Architect, Gerry Strickland of Hamilton Houston Lownie, Mark Bajorek, PE of Systems & Engineering; Seated: Debi Koslowski of Hogan Restoration, Tina McEwen of DiDonato Associates, Jill Howell of SJB Services*

On Monday August 19th, 2002, the Erie/Niagara chapter of NYSSPE and the Buffalo Chapter of the AIA held our annual Architect/Engineer Golf Outing at Brierwood Country Club in Hamburg, NY. Over 130 engineers, architects, and their clients attended the event. Thousands of dollars worth of prizes were awarded including a Caribbean cruise, weekend getaway packages, tickets to local sporting and cultural events, and sports equipment.

Thanks to our 2002 Golf Outing Committee Chairs: Edward Watts, PE and Gerry Strickland, AIA, and members Mark Rampado, AIA, Mark Bajorek, PE, Debi Kozlowski, Matthew Moscati, AIA, John DiDonato, PE, and Tony Thomas, PE, and volunteers Tima McEwen and Jill Howell who assisted Debi Koslowski in assuring that the event ran smoothly.

Our annual golf outing is one of the major social and financial events of the year and would not be successful without the generous contributions of our sponsors:

### Corporate Sponsors:

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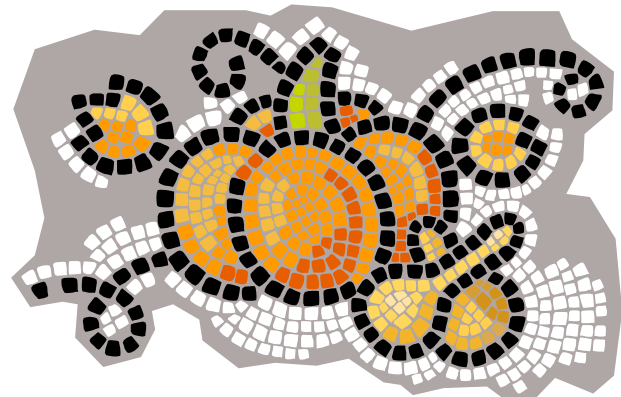
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Northeast Caissons  
Otis Elevator  
Pinehill Associates  
Pratt & Huth  
Rapid Ray's Printing  
River Oaks Golf Club  
SJB Services  
TP Woodside  
TVGA Consultants

Plans are already underway for next year's event. Keep your eyes out in February for a preliminary announcement!

The Erie-Niagara Chapter NYSSPE held its annual picnic at Joseph's on July 9. Mark Bajorek, P.E. organized the picnic and was the judge in the events



# BULLETIN



## Help Us

We need information about you to help us serve you.

1. Please send your email to John Frandina (john.j.frandina@delphiauto.com). We currently have emails for less than half of our organization. Also, let John know if you want to receive notices by email.
2. We are always looking for topics for seminars and meetings. Please send me your ideas by email froma@aol.com subject: NSPE seminars, or mail to the bulletin return address.
3. Do you want to become more involved in chapter activities? Currently, we need an assistant editor for the bulletin. Please email froma@aol.com subject: NSPE editor, or mail to the bulletin return address.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The EAC's 2002-2003 season of luncheon meetings will again be held at the Buffalo Yacht Club on the second Wednesday of each month, as follows:

- November 13, 2002: "Update on Planning and Public Participation for the Peace Bridge Expansion Project", by Vincent Lamb, P.E., Bi-national Environmental Review Project Manager, Parsons Transportation Group.
- January 8, 2002: "Bailing out the Niagara River and Other Interesting Challenges: Design and Construction of the Buffalo Sewer Authority's New Grit Removal Facility", by James Raleigh, P.E., Project Manager, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.

Monthly luncheon meetings are \$13.00 per member, including lunch, gratuity, and tip. To attend an EAC meeting or be added to the EAC mailing list, contact: Kevin O'Beirne, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., 40 Centre Drive, Orchard Park, NY 14127, (716) 667-6667, e-mail: kobeirne@pirnie.com, OR Jim Bojarski, McMahon & Mann, 2495 Main Street, Suite 432, Buffalo, NY 14214, (716) 834-8932, e-mail: jbojarski@mmce.net.



## Call for Papers

FOR A ONE-DAY SYMPOSIUM ON:  
Groundwater and Surface Water Supply  
Investigation, Production, Protection

When: Wednesday, March 5, 2003  
Where: Buffalo, New York

Sponsored By:

*Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists  
And  
New York State Council of Professional  
Geologists*

## Abstracts to Be Submitted by:

November 19, 2002

## Abstracts Submitted To:

Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists  
c/o Lea Cervi  
Ecology & Environment, Inc.  
368 Pleasant View Drive, Lancaster, NY 14086  
Fax No.: 716/684-0844  
E-mail: [lcervi@ene.com](mailto:lcervi@ene.com)

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NYSSPE ERIE/NIAGARA CHAPTER  
 Frank Roma, PE  
 NYSEG  
 150 Erie St.  
 Lancaster, NY 14086

**2002– 2003 Erie – Niagara Chapter  
 Officers, Directors & Chairpersons Officers**

President	John J. Frandina, P.E.
First Vice President	Peter J. McClive, P.E.
Second Vice President	Mark L. Bajorek, P.E.
Membership	John DiDonato, P.E.
Treasurer	Dolores M. Funke, P.E.
Secretary	Thomas R. Heins, P.E.
Immediate Past President:	Ronald R. Cavalieri, P.E.

**Directors:**

Director	Roy W. Svensson, P.E.	2004
Director	Frank Roma, P.E.	2004
Director	Thomas J. Wik, P.E.	2003
Director	William V. Zajac, P.E.	2003
Director	Gino Forte, P.E.	2005

**Chapter Development “A” – Peter J. McClive, P.E.**

Bulletin	Frank Roma, P.E.
Program	Peter McClive, P.E.
Annual Outing	Mark Bajorek, P.E.

**Chapter Development “B” – Mark Bajorek, P.E.**

Student Chapters	Mark Bajorek, P.E.
Engineer’s Week	Mark Bajorek, P.E.

**Chapter Management “A” – Tom Wik, P.E.**

Legislation	
Randolph W. Rakoczinski, P.E.	
Ways and Means	
Ethical Practice	David J. Thielman, P.E.
Nominating	Ron Cavalieri, P.E.

**Chapter Management “B” – Roy Svensson, P.E.**

PEC	Anthony G. Milone, P.E.
PEI	open
PEG	Paul M. Bowers, P.E.
PEPP	Randy Rakoczynski, P.E.
PEE	open

**Chapter Promotion “A” – Gino Forte, P.E.**

Scholarship	Gino Forte, P.E.
Membership	open
Public Relations	Hirsch and Company
Awards	Don McMahon, P.E.

**Chapter Promotion “B” – William V. Zajac, P.E.**

P.E. Review Course	William Zajac
Math Counts	Peter McClive, P.E.
Engineering Opportunities	Peter McClive, P.E.
P.E. Advisory Council	

**Public Service**

Environmental Affairs Committee	Kevin O’Beirne, P.E. Jim Bojarski, P.E.
TSC Delegates	Donald R. McMahon, P.E. Peter McClive, P.E.
Building Codes	F. Robert Danni, P.E.
Environmental Education Institute	Edward O. Watts, P.E.

**Special Task Forces – Tom Heins, P.E.**

Future Cities	Thomas Heins, P.E.
PLI Seminar	Mark Bajorek, P.E.
Order of the Engineer	Mark Bajorek, P.E.