

# The Drawingboard

## Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

March 2006 Volume 6, Number 3

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## President's Message

By Chris Petallides, P.E. President

This is the second month the *Drawingboard* is being delivered to you by email. We hope the sudden switch from regular mail isn't inconveniencing those of you who have gotten into the habit of saving past issues for posterity. Even if you are not saving past issues, though, it may still be a good idea to print a hard copy for yourself to use as



ready reference for dates and events for the current month. Apparently, the email method of delivery is gaining acceptance if we were to use the absence of complaints as a yardstick (unless nobody reads the newsletter in the first place). Without belaboring the issue, let me remind everyone, yet again, that the Chapter is only as good as its members and, in this respect, it needs each and every one of us to become and/or remain active in order to assure its survival and viability. May '06 is the month for Chapter elections. We need you to volunteer your services and commit yourself to giving something back to the Chapter (and the profession). Remember, community service can be a very rewarding We congratulate Chapter past president Sal Galletta, PE on his nomination for the prestigious "NYSSPE Government Engineer of the Year Award" 2006 and Chapter VP Brian Flynn, PE, on his election as "NYSSPE Nominating" Committee Delegate", representing the New York City region. The next General Meeting will discuss the agenda issues identified at the last Directors' Meeting (see "Minute of Meeting - Directors', March 9, 2006", compiled by Chapter Secretary, Anthony Paolo), as well as the burning issue of our continued tenancy at Fort Totten. We look forward to seeing you all, Thursday, March 23, 2006, 6:30PM. As always, free dinner will be served, compliments of our sponsor.

#### Immediate Past Presidents

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## **Upcoming Meeting Information**

### Our Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday March 23, 2005 - 6:30 PM

This month's lecture will be about:

## Sand Filters as a Best Management Practice (BMP) for stormwater management.

The main focus of the lecture will be the design criteria of sand filters (i.e. draw down times, hydraulic conductivity, media bed depth, hydraulic head), and how these choices affect the sand filter bed size. Other topics discussed will be performance, maintenance requirements, vector control issues, and costs.

Our speaker will be **Lisa Walters**, of <u>Rotondo / Oldcastle Precast</u>, who had worked as a project manager for nearly 10 years, and is currently their technical stormwater representative for the Northeast.

This lecture has been approved for 1.0 PDH by PIE, so please invite your fellow professionals to participate.

#### Location:

422 WEAVER AVE, FORT TOTTEN, NEW YORK

## Infrastructure Proposal Update

by Salvatore Galletta, PE

The Infrastructure Proposal will be introduced into City Council on March 22, 2006. **Councilmember Montserrate** will introduce it as a Resolution which urges **Mayor Bloomberg** to create the position of Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure. There will likely be hearings in City Council which will allow us to educate and inform our elected officials on the need for a technically based, comprehensive and coordinated system for the management of the public and private infrastructure of the City of New York.

Once the Resolution is introduced into City Council we need to mobilize support for it among all the stakeholders. In particular we need to get our colleagues in the Engineering and Architectural Community to urge their elected representatives to support this important legislation.

#### Nominating Committee

John Zurita, Chair P.E. (212) 788-8199

Sal Galletta,

P.E. (212) 788-8199

Gregory Georges,

P.E. (718) 274-4800

Michael Karantinidis,

P.E.

(718) 726-2226

#### Please Note:

Members are advised that the Queens Chapter meeting on Thursday, March 23 will be held at our Fort Totten office. At the Fort Totten gate tell the guard you are a member of the P.E. Society and that your name is on the list that they keep there. Any nonmembers and guests not placed on the list will be denied entrance-If this happens the guest should ask the guard to call the phone number on the membership list. A board member will then come down to bring the guest in

#### Computer and Office Donations Needed

Is your firm or company updating its computer or other office equipment and planning to get rid of the older systems? If so, please consider donating such equipment to the Queens Chapter of the NYSSPE.

The Queens Chapter is seeking donations of computer and cffice equipment. For more information contact Chris Petallides, Queens Chapter President at 718-961-4342

You, too, can do your part in getting the Resolution adopted by calling, writing or faxing your councilmember and the mayor. The contact information is available at the NYC website (<a href="www.nyc.gov">www.nyc.gov</a>). To get contact information for your city councilmember or to find who represents your district, you can go to the following web page:

www.nyccouncil.info/constituent/member\_list.cfm

If you do not have access to the Internet you can call **George Tavoulareas**, **PE** at 718-609-2559 to get the contact information.

You will also need the Resolution number when you contact your elected officials. This number will become available once the Resolution is introduced. To get the number please call Councilmember Monserrate's office at 212- 788-6862 and ask for **Bridget**. She is the person responsible for submitting the Resolution.

### **NYSSPE Election News**

Compiled by Jennifer Miller Director of Programs, NYSSPE

The NYSSPE Teller's Committee reports that the following are duly elected State Society Officers for 2006-2007: **Congratulations!** 

President

William Prazenka, Jr.,

PΕ

**President Elect** 

Robert P. Stelianou, PE

Treasurer

Donald P. Nims, PE

**New York City VP** 

George Penesis, PE

Northeast VP

Keith Lashway, PE

Western New York

VP

John Frandina, PE

#### Chapter Seeks Donations to PDC Library

The Queens Chapter is still seeking donations of books for the Professional Design Center Library

Queens Chapter President Chris Petallides would like all to know that the Professional Design Center Library is still in need of Books, Magazines and other materials. The Queens Chapter is asking all members to donate any reference material, such as textbooks, catalogs and product literature that they can.

#### **Nominating Committee:**

Chair - Paul M. Bowers, PE

#### **Delegates:**

**Long Island** John "Trey" Wehrum, P.E.

**New York City** Brian Flyn, P.E.

**Mid-Hudson** Garry R. Lynch, P.E.

Northeast Lawrence J. O'Connor, P.E.,

L.S.

Central NY Fran Roma, P.E.
Western NY Carl Eller, P.E.

## CPA Firm to conduct financial review of NYSSPE records (2005-2006 fiscal year):

Teal, Becker & Chiaramonte CPA's, PC

## Foundation for Engineering Education, Inc. Trustees; (Two-year term)

Donald P. Nims, PE;

Alonzo C. Rand, PE:

John J. Frandina, PE;

Michael R. Hayes, PE;

Lawrence J. O'Connor, PE, LS

## 2006 Chapter Meeting Schedule

#### Mark Your Calendar

For your convenience the Queens County Chapter NYSSPE meeting schedule is provided below.

Directors' meetings and general meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month except November and December meetings which will be held on the first and third Thursday of the month due to holidays. So mark your calendar. The schedule is as follows:

<u>Membership</u> <u>Meeting</u> <u>(6:30PM)</u>
March 23, 2006
April 27, 2006
May 25, 2006
June 22, 206
July 27, 2006



## MINUTES OF MEETING - Directors', March 9, 2006

Respectfully Submitted by Anthony Paolo Chapter Secretary

<u>Attendance</u>-: Chris Petallides, PE, Pres., Brian Flynn, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, PE, George Tavoulareas, PE, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, James J. Manoussoff, PE, Sal Gallata, PE, John M. Kepertis, PE, Phil Kefalas, PE, Saeed Ainechi, PE, Anthony Paolo, Chapter Secretary

<u>Treasury Report -</u> The treasury report was presented by V.P. George Tavoulareas, PE. The Chapter now has about \$5000 in the checking account and about \$1800 in the savings account.

**2006 Drawingboard**-The February '06 issue of the **Drawingboard** was sent via email to Queens Chapter (QC) members for the first time in **the Drawingboard** history. The email had some bugs; however, they are being ironed out for the next email. The Chapter's email list appears to be up to date. If a member's email has changed, please provide the new email address so that the list can be kept current to ensure the Chapter members receive the **Drawingboard** via email without fail.

<u>Directory Committee Report-</u> The Directory report was given by V.P. Brian Flynn, PE. The Directory can use additional ads. Chapter members are encouraged to solicit outside sponsor ads and also place their own ads in the QC directory. Completed forms may be forwarded to Brian. Also, QC members are encouraged to provide Brian with changes and/or updates concerning name, address, telephone and email address so that the new Directory will contain the most up to date member information.

<u>Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure</u>- Sal Gallata, PE, will write an update on the proposed legislation for the creation of a new "Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure." The article will appear in the next *Drawingboard* issue.

<u>DOB Industry Meetings-</u> The next Industry Meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2006, 2:30PM, at the Queens Building Dept., with Acting Queens Borough Commissioner, Mr. Derek Lee, RA, presiding. All interested QC members are encouraged to attend.

<u>QC General Meeting 2006 Sponsors</u> - George Tavoulareas, PE, has secured sponsors for the March '06 and April '06 general meetings. George is now working on scheduling Firestone Roofing Materials for an upcoming general meeting. Anthony Paolo will also contact a local engineering company to sponsor an upcoming meeting. The idea is to secure sponsors ahead of time and for the entire 2006 year, so that we may announce future sponsors in a timely manner so that members may take full advantage of lectures offered.

<u>Down Zoning-</u> The details of the proposed R2A zoning were introduced to about 200 homeowners in Little Neck and Douglaston at a community meeting sponsored by the Little Neck Community Association (LNCA), on November 15, 2005. At the end of that meeting, more than half the attendees signed the petition "against R2A" while only one person signed the petition "in favor" of the down zoning. To date, more than 300 homeowners (out of a total of 870 homes in the study area) have expressed their opposition to R2A and the number continues to grow. The expressed goal of the LNCA is to secure enough signatures for an "absolute" majority against R2A so that the local politicians will be forced to respect the wishes of the community.

<u>PDC Update</u>- A draft letter to the Parks Department was prepared by past PDC chairman, Bernie Haber, PE, informing them that; the PDC is a non-for profit organization, and; that the PDC has used and financed the building (#422) for nine years. Mr. Tom Compagna, PE, and other responsible PDC directors are being asked to review the draft letter for suggestions before it is finalized for chairman DiNatale's signature.

<u>PDH Certificates</u>-The ASSA-ABLOY (the lock company) certificates from the February 23, '06 general meeting lecture will be distributed at the next general meeting, March 23, '06.

(cont'd next page)

#### (minutes of March Directors' Meeting cont'd)

<u>Award Nomination</u>- Past QC president Sal Gallata, PE, has worked tirelessly to improve the status of the engineering profession over an extended period of years. More specifically, Sal has logged countless hours on a proposed legislation for the creation of a new "Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure" position to be filled exclusively be a licensed professional, either a PE or an RA, who will oversee the City's infrastructure. For these and other reasons, the QC proudly nominated Sal for the prestigious "NYSSPE Government Engineer of the Year Award" 2006. To Sal, we say Thanks & Good Luck in his future endeavors.

<u>QC Election</u>-The 2006-2007 QC elections will be held at the May 25, '06 general meeting. The nominating committee will convene shortly to propose a slate of officers for the official QC ballot '06. As you know, the QC has become a model chapter for others to mimic but that takes work, commitment and sacrifice. All members are encouraged to become active and contribute their talents in running the Chapter. All members in good standing are urged to step up to the plate by contacting any member of the nominating committee and expressing their willingness to serve.

Respectfully Submitted by Anthony Paolo - Chapter Secretary,

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