



The Drawingboard

Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

October 2009

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President's Message

*By Chris Petallides, P.E.
President*



The Chapter is continually trying to come to grips with the various issues effecting our profession. Some of these issues are old and general in nature, i.e., educating/convincing the public (and some of our colleagues as well) that engineering is a "profession" worthy of respect. Some other issues, however, affecting our profession are very recent, very urgent and require our immediate attention

lest we become even more subservient to others than we already are.

For your information, our appeal of the recent negative court ruling, re: the Society's lawsuit against NYC for violating State Education Law by appointing a non-professional as Buildings' (DOB) Commissioner is still pending. We guess that public safety may be considered by some as secondary to the upcoming elections (?). In the meantime, the DOB is shelling out more and more half-baked rules and regulations (without any input from the design professions) which threaten to stifle construction and the economy even more.

Now that the joint NYSSPE/AIA state convention in Rochester, NY, Sept, 24 - 26 '09 is behind us, the chairman of the Metropolitan Chapter Presidents' Council (MCPC) is planning meetings to address these and other issues of mutual concern. We will keep you posted.

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The Queens & Bronx Building Association Annual Trade Show is scheduled for this Thursday, October 15th '09, 5:30-9:00 PM at the Terrace on the Park, 111th St. & 52nd Ave., Flushing Meadow Park, Queens and we are informed by the Queens Chapter immediate past president, **Brian Flynn**, PE, that we are all invited. While you are there, please talk with the various vendors of engineering-related products or services about the prospect of sponsoring one of our Chapter's general meetings and, if they show interest, take their business card and pass it on to Queens Chapter V.P., **John Sgouros**, PE, who's presently our sponsor chairman for possible follow-up.

Our next general meeting is scheduled for Thurs., October 22, 2009, 6:30PM at Fort Totten. As always, we look forward to your input and feedback so that, together, we can make a difference.

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Upcoming Meeting Information

Our Next Chapter Meeting

Date: Thursday October 22nd, 2009 – 6:30 PM

Sponsor: To Be Announced

Location:

422 Weaver Ave., Fort Totten, New York

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QUEENS COUNTY CHAPTER

OF

THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

(Member: National Society of Professional Engineers - NSPE)

47-15 Marathon Pkwy, Little Neck Hills, NY 11362-1255

Tel. No. (718) 961 4342

Fax: (718) 321 3929

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November 20, 2008

Dear Colleague,

The Queens Chapter – NYSSPE is soliciting contributions from Engineers and Architects in the NY area to help fund a lawsuit by the NY State Society of Professional Engineers (NYSSPE) against the City of New York. As you probably already know, the NY City Council recently passed a law changing the City Charter, at the insistence of Mayor Bloomberg, which removed the licensure requirement from the Commissioner of the Department of Buildings. The new law now states that the Buildings Commissioner need not be licensed. Presently, an unlicensed lay person is Buildings Commissioner.

The Queens Chapter is leading the fight in the NY Metropolitan area AGAINST the Mayor's irresponsible actions which endanger the public's health, safety and welfare while undermining and diminishing both the Engineering and Architectural professions.

The Queens Chapter leadership is asking all Engineers and Architects to contribute to a legal fund which will support the NYSSPE legal suit against the City of New York. Please make whatever contribution is within your means.

It's about time we stand up for our Profession and the people of New York!

Suggested contributions:

\$1,000 _____ \$ 750 _____ \$ 500 _____ \$ 250 _____ \$ 100 _____ Other _____

Please make checks payable to: "Queens Chapter – NYSSPE" Memo: "Legal Fund"

Mail to:

Jose A. Velasquez, P.E. - Treasurer
Queens Chapter – NYSSPE
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