



## The Pittsburgh Professional Engineer

<http://www.PittsburghPE.Org>

E-mail [PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org](mailto:PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org)

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The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers

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September 2002

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE : Progress Report

Greetings to you all, the PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter members and sustaining associates. In last month's newsletter I informed you that the Chapter will be working to overcome some of the challenges facing our Chapter.

As to the main challenges of dealing with declining Chapter revenue while maintaining and improving the services provided to our members, I am glad to report that the first step toward achieving this goal has been implemented.

The Chapter office, which served the members 3 days a week, was closed as of the end of August 2002. At this point, I would like, on behalf of all the Chapter members, to thank our secretary Leslie Russell, for her eight years of service to the Pittsburgh Chapter and to wish her the best of luck in her new job with the Engineers Society of Western Pennsylvania ("ESWP").

As for the alternative to the office setup we have had to this point, we were fortunate enough to find a solution that both improves the level of service provided to the Chapter members and drastically reduces our operating expenses. All of the regular office functions, that used to be handled by Leslie, will now be handled by the ESWP staff (which now includes Leslie). In addition, the level of member services has been upgraded. With regards to phone support, there will now be somebody answering the phone 5 days a week instead of only 3 : our phone number remains unchanged : and a separate dedicated fax number is now available for use by the members to communicate with the Chapter. It is 412-261-1606.

Members will now be able to use credit cards as well as check and cash when paying for various Chapter functions. This option will enable us to accept member meeting and event reservations online, including receipt of payment.

Another major benefit to the Chapter is the drastic reduction of the Chapter operating expenses by about 40%.

One of the other challenges we spoke of in last month's issue was improving the Chapter means of communicating with the members - to that end we are planning the following:

(Continued on page 2)

Here is your chance to publish an article in the October 2002 issue of The Pittsburgh Professional Engineer. Please forward materials to Michel Sadaka [PSPE@PittsburghPE.org](mailto:PSPE@PittsburghPE.org) by **October 7**. This will keep us on schedule for a mail date of **October 11**.

Please feel free to submit articles on topics that relate to the Engineering Profession in general, member professional news, comments and suggestions for The Pittsburgh Professional Engineer, or general professional observations.

Your support and contributions will be greatly appreciated.

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(President's message, continued from page 1)

**1. Newsletter** - Reduce or phase out the hard copy format of the newsletter and eventually transition to a fully electronic format, if possible. The electronic format is already being generated along with the hard copy and can be viewed at the Chapter web site [www.pittsburghpe.org/newsletter.html](http://www.pittsburghpe.org/newsletter.html).

Last month's newsletter, as well as this one, is available for viewing at the above web site address. Please note that you will need to have the Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the newsletter. The free Acrobat reader is available from the Adobe web site [www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html). Once the

Acrobat reader is downloaded you will need to install it. If further assistance is needed, please contact the Chapter and we will attempt to provide the needed help.

On this newsletter page, we have a survey, we are requesting you complete and let us know of your preference regarding the newsletter. You can inform us by phone, fax, e-mail, or the online newsletter form at [www.pittsburghpe.org/newsletter.html](http://www.pittsburghpe.org/newsletter.html).

**2. E-mail list** - We are continually trying to update our list of member e-mail addresses. In the past few months we have sent a few "broadcast" e-mail messages via the addresses on our list. If you have a valid e-mail address and have not received any e-mail messages from the PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter recently, we urge you to contact us and give us your address. You may send your address via e-mail to [PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org](mailto:PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org) or fill out the e-mail list form at [www.pittsburghpe.org/email.html](http://www.pittsburghpe.org/email.html).

In conclusion, we will continue to work at overcoming the challenges we identified. In the mean time if you have not visited the Chapter web site, please make sure that you do. If you haven't heard from us via e-mail, please let us know your e-mail address.

Michel J. Sadaka, P.E. Chapter President

**N**ewsletter. The Chapter Newsletter "The Pittsburgh Professional Engineer" is published by the Pittsburgh Chapter to inform the Chapter members of the various planned events and activities, plus featured articles on issues the interest the members. If you would like to contribute an article or assist in publishing the newsletter, please contact us. Any help is greatly appreciated.

**How Would You Like to Receive the Newsletter?** Please answer the following survey and send in your response and comments. Thanks in advance for your participation.

I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE PITTSBURGH PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER DELIVERED TO ME IN THE FOLLOWING FASHION:

- Hard copy through the U.S. mail. ( current status, response is still needed )
- PDF file sent to my preferred email address.
- E-mail notification with a link to the Newsletter on the Chapter Website.

Please send your responses to the Chapter office by regular mail, by fax 412-391-0615 or by e-mail to [PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org](mailto:PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org)

\* If you have already responded to this survey, there is no need for you to respond again, and THANKS !



**PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER**

**OCTOBER 17, 2002 CHAPTER MEETING**

**“SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT PENNSYLVANIA’S “NEW” SAFE FILL REGULATIONS ?”**

**Abstract:** On February 2, 2002, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) proposed regulations that will impose a number of new, considerably more stringent, requirements on the use of “fill” materials in the Commonwealth, in many cases subjecting fill materials to regulation as “solid waste,” and in virtually all cases subjecting fill materials to onerous sampling and analysis requirements. These regulations are commonly known as the “Safe Fill” regulations, and they go far beyond the requirements imposed by most states and likely will have a “chilling” effect on construction and development activities in the Commonwealth.

**Speakers:** **D. Matthew Jameson III & Donald C. Bluedorn II**  
Both from the Law Firm of **Babst Calland Clements & Zomnir**  
The professional biographies of the speakers is on page 4

**Place:** Engineers Building, 337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15222

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. Cash bar  
6:30 p.m. Dinner  
7:15 p.m. Presentation (45 minutes)

**Dinner Entrees**, A Choice of one of the following:

1. Lemon Sole Belle Meuniere, Broiled & Topped with breaded sliced tomatos, mushroom cap & white wine sauce
2. Pork Piccatta, Sauteed medallions with capers, mushrooms, lemon & white wine

The dinner entrees are served with fresh garden salad, assorted rolls & butter, coffee, decaf, tea & iced tea and Chef’s choice of starch, vegetable and dessert.

Dinner Cost \$ 25.00 per attendee

Make check payable to **PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter** and mail to:

PSPE, 337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15222, & **Please indicate your entrée choice.**

To make reservations call the office by Friday October 11, 2002 at (412) 391-0615 or e-mail: [PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org](mailto:PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org)

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers  
wants to Congratulate the law firm of  
Babst Calland Clements Zomnir  
on becoming the first Law Firm to join the PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter as a Sustaining Associate  
Thanks for your support

Professional Biographies of the October 17 meeting speakers:

**Mr. D. Matthew Jameson III, Shareholder, Babst Calland Clements Zomnir, Construction Services Group, Litigation Services Group, Technology Services Group, (412) 394-5491, Fax: (412) 394-6576, mjameson@bccz.com**

**Area of Emphasis:** Mr. Jameson is the Chairperson of BCCZ Construction Services Group and serves as the editor of Under Construction, the firm's quarterly construction law newsletter. Matt Jameson's practice focuses primarily on large, complex construction, commercial, and environmental litigation matters. He has had significant experience in construction claims, bid protests, complex breach of contract actions, and CERCLA cost recovery cases.

He has also advised clients on the impact of a variety of technology issues on the construction industry. He has represented clients before various courts, administrative tribunals, and alternative dispute resolution forums, including numerous United States District Courts and Courts of Appeals, the Pennsylvania Board of Claims, and the American Arbitration Association.

**Background:** Mr. Jameson graduated from the Pennsylvania State University with a B.A. degree in 1988. He received his J.D., with honors, from the Rutgers University School of Law -Camden in 1992. While at Rutgers, Mr. Jameson served as Editor-in-Chief of the Rutgers Law Journal, where he also published two articles. In 1991 Mr. Jameson won the Judge James Hunter III Memorial Advanced Moot Court Competition. Prior to joining the firm in 1993, Mr. Jameson served a one-year clerkship with the Honorable Michael Patrick King, Presiding Judge of the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

**Mr. Donald C. Bluedorn II Shareholder, Babst Calland Clements Zomnir, Environmental Health & Safety Services Group (412) 394-5450 Fax: (412) 394-6576 dbluedorn@bccz.com**

**Area of Emphasis:** Don Bluedorn's practice involves many aspects of environmental law, including environmental litigation, regulatory compliance, and corporate acquisition, and in particular, tends to focus on wastewater management, site remediation, and hazardous waste issues. Because of the technical nature of both the subject matter and his education, Mr. Bluedorn typically works closely with the client, technical consultants and engineers during all phases of a project's development. This team approach has been very successful with state and federal regulatory agencies in a number of different states throughout the country.

**Background:** Mr. Bluedorn received his B.S. from Grove City College in 1983, where he graduated with high honors in Electrical Engineering, and a J.D. in 1986 from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where he graduated Order of the Coif and was a member of the Editorial Board of the University of Pittsburgh Law Review. Mr. Bluedorn's undergraduate education focused heavily on the power aspects of electrical engineering and he is currently Engineer-in-Training registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. While in college and law school, he gained valuable practical experience within the electrical utility industry, particularly with regard to the basic issues of electrical transmission and distribution.

Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Bluedorn joined a large Pittsburgh-based law firm where his practice was split between commercial litigation and environmental law. He joined BCCZ in late 1987, at which time he limited his practice to the field of environmental law.

## ENGINEERING JOBS: WHERE ARE THEY IN PITTSBURGH?

PSPE-Pittsburgh has, unfortunately, cancelled its scheduled Engineering Job Fair planned for September 26 due to an insufficient response from engineering employers. The slow-moving economy has taken a toll on virtually every aspect of our financial lives and this event fell victim to a low demand for engineers in the region.

So where can an engineer turn for local employment and career opportunities? Listed below are some suggestions for finding technical jobs or career enhancements:

The PSPE-Pittsburgh Web Site located at <http://www.PittsburghPE.org> frequently links to or lists opportunities submitted by our Sustaining Associates or Chapter Members. Identification as a PSPE-Pittsburgh member also enhances the odds of being contacted by one of these employers.

The PSPE state site and the NSPE site also contain listings which can be accessed at <http://www.pspe.org/employment.html> and <http://www.nspe.org/em1-clas.asp>, respectively. These jobs may, however, be located in various parts of Pennsylvania or the country. It is worth noting, however, that employers utilizing this service may specifically need the qualifications of a registered engineer and PE's may therefore have a distinct advantage in applying for these positions.

Another site specializing in jobs for engineers is located at [http://www.engineerjobs.com/pa\\_jobs.html](http://www.engineerjobs.com/pa_jobs.html). Here, jobs are listed in order of submission with the most recently posted positions at the top. Some of the opportunities refer the job seeker to a temporary or placement company to work through.

Jobwizard.com and Monster.com are, of course, gigantic repositories of job openings which can be filtered to reveal a large number of technical and engineering positions. However, the enormity of a site such as this also leads to its disadvantage: invariably, anyone who believes he/she can spell "engineer" somehow feels qualified to apply online for these technical positions. Thus, the odds of being contacted by these employers is reduced due to the sheer number of applications. It takes careful selection of words for resumes and letters along with a lot of luck to have your name picked by one of the posting companies.

Alternatively, sites such as FlipDog.com offer direct access to jobs posted on company websites. In many cases this proves to be the most effective means of reaching employers and frequently there are positions at the employer's site not posted anywhere else.

The reverse procedure to searching job postings is to utilize one of the resume posting services. ResumeXposure.com, ResumeRabbit.com and Employment911.com are established sites which continue to refine the process of providing a prospective employee database to employers.

Are there other job search methods in addition to the internet and the traditional methods of headhunters and newspapers? Yes! Participation in PSPE events is an excellent means of developing a network of contacts from many different fields of engineering. It may not happen at the first event or two, but over a brief period of time and with a little effort, contacts can be made in private industry, government, academics and otherwise. There is no shortage of authorities which confirm that in good times and in bad, a thick listing of personal contacts always beats access to job listings.

Ed. Witt Jr., P.E. Immediate Past President and State Director

### New Chapter Members

We welcome the following New Chapter Members who Joined our Chapter in 2002

Patrick Branch, P.E.	Nelson Crooks, P.E.	Kenneth Fair	Graham L. Ferry
Robert C. Grier, P.E.	Navin P. Kadakia, P.E.	Thomas A. McHugh, P.E.	Mahnaz Nasehi
Dennis W. Okorn, P.E.	Marwan Sadaka	JoAnn Truchan	Luis A. Vega
Daniel Whalen, P.E.	Thomas J. Zagorski, P.E.		

## OFFICE EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Due to the restructuring of the Chapter office, we have the following used office equipment items for sale :

**Pentium II PC (DELLDimension XPS 233) with a 15" Monitor, 64MB, CDROM/ZipDrive**

**HP Laserjet IIIP Printer**

**OfficeJet Model 920 Printer/Fax/Copier**

**One Used Office Photo-Copier CANON NP-6030 - Features :**

30 copies per minute	Two page separation Automatic paper selection	ID mode
Job memory	Image combination (4 on 1; 2 on 1),	Organic drum
Stapler & Sorter	Zoom lens 49% to 204% in 1% increments	Duplexer
Monocomponent toner	Dual front loading cassettes (3 sizes-500 sheets each)	

If you are interested in any of these items, please contact Michel Sadaka by phone 412-771-7701 or fax 412-771-7510 or by email PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org to ask questions or to make an offer.

### 2002-2003 Chapter Officers

Michel J. Sadaka, P.E.	412.771.7701	Michel@Sadaka.net	President
Joseph Grubbs, P.E.	412.269.2742	Jgrubbs@mbakercorp.com	President-elect
Dave Briskey, P.E.	412.272.5981	Dbriskey@dickcorp.com	Vice President
Ed Witt, P.E.	412.288.4290	Eawittjr@verizon.net	Imm. Past Pres. & State Dir.
John Broschious, P.E.	412.358.8553	jbrosc@att.net	Treasurer
Earl McCabe, P.E.	412.761.1844		Executive Secretary
Reyman Branting, P.E.	412.281.3800	bernardi@nauticom.net	Financial Secretary

### 2002-2003 Chapter Directors

Mohan Budidha, P.E.,	412.767.2400	Mbudidha@Medrad.com	Director	2002-2005
Kenneth Halliday, P.E.,	724.682.5072	Hallidayk@firstenergygroup.com	Director	2002-2005
Darryl Brogan, P.E.,	412.497.2144	DBrogan@hatch.ca	Director	2002-2004
Kimberly Gales, P.E.,	412.885.8888	Kageng@aol.com	Director	2002-2004
Doug Zaenger, P.E.,	724.785.2066	Dzaenger@pjdick.com	Director	2002-2003
Gary Chodkowski, P.E.,	724-443-7999	GChodkowski@mbakercorp.com	Director	2002-2003

### Associate Members

Babst Calland Clements Zomnir (New)	Beckwith Machinery Company
Benchmark Engineering & Construction	Buchart-Horn, Inc.
Camp Dresser and McKee, Inc.	Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.
D & D Engineering, Inc.	Dick Corporation
Earth, Inc.	Eichleay Engineers, Inc.
GAI Consultants, Inc.	Galletta Engineering Corporation
Gannett Fleming, Inc.	The Gateway Engineers, Inc.
Golden Triangle Construction	HDR Engineering, Inc.
Keddal Aerial Mapping (Div. of Kucera Int'l)	L. Robert Kimball & Associates
Lorenzi, Dodds & Gunnill, Inc.	Maguire Group, Inc.
Management Engineering Corporation	Marshall Elevator Company
Mashuda Corporation	Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.
Monaloh Basin Engineers, Inc.	P. J. Dick, Inc.
Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas	Roy F. Johns, Jr. & Associates
Tower Engineering	Trumbull Corporation



**PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER**

**NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING**

**HONORING RETIRED & LIFETIME CHAPTER MEMBERS**

The PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter is blessed with very good membership. Many of the Chapter members are lifetime or retired members. To qualify to become a lifetime member, you need to have been a member for at least 40 years. To have so many members that remain committed to the society for 40 years or more is really a great asset, so, this meeting is dedicated to thanking and honoring these members. We simply want to say to our Lifetime and Retired Members "Thank you - we appreciate you".

**Speaker: Mr. Scott Malcolm - Pittsburgh Branch Manager - Godwin Pumps**

**Topic: The Miracle at Quecreek Mile - Personal Experience**

**Place:** Engineers Building, 337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15222

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. Cash bar  
6:30 p.m. Dinner  
7:15 p.m. Honoring Retired & Lifetime Members  
7:45 p.m. Mr. Scott Malcolm

The rest of the details of the event plans will be included in next month's newsletter. If you have any particular suggestion as to ways to honor and thank our retired and lifetime members, or if you have any anecdotal stories that would be appropriate for the event, please contact Michel J. Sadaka, P.E. the Pittsburgh Chapter President. Call 412-771-7701, or fax 412-771-7510, or e-mail to the main Chapter e-mail address [PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org](mailto:PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org)

With all of your participation, we can make this event memorable !

Separate invitation will be mailed out as we get closer to the event. The invitations will include directions, event program, and much more... This will be a fun evening.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending.

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**Pittsburgh Chapter**

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**Pittsburgh, PA 15222**

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## 2002-2003 CALENDAR

### MEMBERSHIP EVENTS & MEETINGS

Date	Time	Description	Location
Oct. 17, 2002	6:30PM	Presentation on Safe Fill Regulations	ESWP Building
Nov. 14, 2002	6:30PM	Honoring Lifetime & Retired members	ESWP Building
Dec. 7, 2002	6:00PM	Christmas Party	TBA
Jan. 9, 2003	6:30PM	Of what value is the Engineering License to you ?	ESWP Building
Feb. 8, 2003	8:00AM	MATHCOUNTS Competition	PITT
Mar. 13, 2003	6:30PM	How safe are we on the information highway	ESWP Building
Apr. 10, 2003	6:30PM	Pittsburgh Chapter Strategic Planning, Round 2	ESWP Building
May 8, 2003	6:30PM	Sharpening the P.E.'s image	ESWP Building
Jun. 12, 2003 until Jun. 15, 2003		Annual PSPE State Conference	Erie, Pa

### BOARD OF DIRECTION MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON:

Aug.8, 2002✓, Sept. 12, 2002✓, Oct. 17, 2002, Nov. 14, 2002, Dec. 12, 2002, Jan. 9, 2003, Feb. 13, 2003  
Mar.13, 2003, Apr. 10, 2003 , May 8, 2003

All BOD meeting are to held @ 5:30PM @ the ESWP Building pending further notice.

✓ - Indicates meeting already held