



LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
 PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Lehigh, Northampton, Monroe, and Carbon Counties
(Organized 1935)

Valley Engineer Newsletter

May-June 2020

President's Message

Alex Dezubay, PE, President

One of the consequences of the COVID-19 virus is, we did not have our annual banquet, during which we present \$2,000.00 scholarships to four High School graduates who are enrolled in an engineering curriculum at a College or University. Instead, we chose to present the awards implementing a 21st Century technology, ZOOM. Our thanks to Peter Staffeld for his technical expertise in setting it up.



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 OF
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER
 (ORGANIZED 1935)**

CARBON, LEHIGH, MONROE, & NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES



On ZOOM

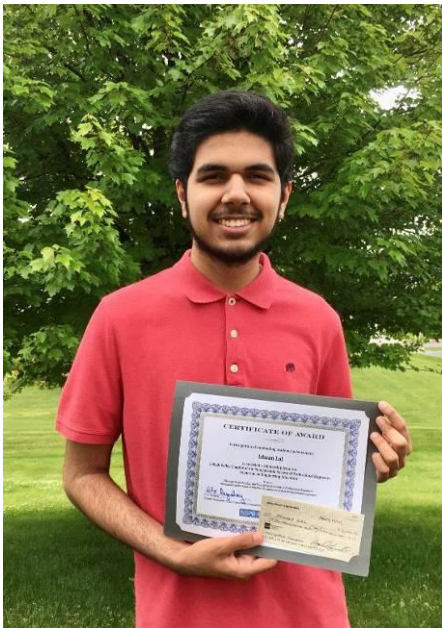
Also, as a consequence of the COVID-19 shutdown, Chapter activities have been postponed until this national tragedy has passed. We will be installing the 2020-2021 officers at a later date, probably this fall. The PSPE and NSPE 2020 conferences have also been postponed until 2021.

The four recipients, most of the Chapter officers, and a number of members joined in to make this

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a successful event. Yes, we all missed the personal contact but under the circumstances it went well. We give thanks to PSPE President Mike Basta for his inspirational message to the recipients. His message follows the bios of the Scholarship recipients in this Newsletter. Engineering is an honorable profession, and we welcome everyone who aspires to its lofty goals.

We gratefully acknowledge our generous sponsors, and appreciate working with ASCE again this year. Stephen Ressler, PE, PhD presented the ASCE award to Michael Rebert who graduated from Northwestern Lehigh High School and is enrolled at Villanova University this fall, majoring in Civil Engineering.



Ishaan Lal is the son of Neeraj and Meetu Lal and is the brother of Sameer Lal. He will be graduating from Emmaus High School. Ishaan will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall of 2020 to study Mechanical Engineering. He also wants to obtain a minor in computer science or business.

In school, Ishaan is captain of the Emmaus High School academic team, where he helped lead the team to qualify for three national competitions as well as the semifinal round of PBS's Scholastic Scrimmage competition. Ishaan is also a member of the Emmaus High School math team and earned the position of President of the team in his senior year. Throughout his schooling, he competed in many competitions around the state and often placed in the top three, including the

PSPE regional MATHCOUNTS® competition. Ishaan also enjoys being a member of his high school band and Ambassadors Club.

In the summer of 2019 Ishaan participated in the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences - a five week program held at Carnegie Mellon University. There, he took courses in five science-based classes, studied machine learning in a computer science lab, and worked with five other individuals on a research project studying chaos within a compound oscillator.

Outside of school, Ishaan enjoys playing the piano. He is a top organizer in official Rubik's Cube Competitions through which he raises money for charities, including No Place for Hate. In the future, Ishaan wishes to make significant contributions to the field of engineering. He also wants to continue giving back to the community as much as possible.



Michael Rebert is the son of Mike and Debie Rebert, and will be graduating from Northwestern Lehigh High School. He plans on attending Villanova University this fall, majoring in Civil Engineering with a minor in Real Estate.

Michael was the Captain of his Varsity Soccer team this fall, leading his team to win the PIAA District 11 AAA Championship. He was a starter on the varsity soccer team his sophomore and junior years, winning league and district champ-

Continued on page 3

ionships and played in the PIAA State Finals in Hershey, PA. Michael was honored this year with the Soccer Scholar Athlete award for Northwestern Lehigh along with being named to the Morning Calls All-Area First Team.

Michael is also the Captain of the Track and Field team. While he is missing out on track this year, he made the league and district finals his sophomore and junior years running in the 800 meter along with the 1600 and 3200 relays. He also played Varsity Basketball.

Michael is a member of the National Honor Society, the Science National Honor Society, Key Club, the Science Olympiad Team, and was on Principal's Honor Roll every semester during high school career.

Michael volunteers and dedicates much of his time at the Lehigh Valley Top Soccer program, and also at the Allentown Rescue Mission. Michael works as a Server Assistant for BJ Brewhouse, and as a Crew Member at Shepherd Hills Golf Course.

In his spare time, Michael enjoys running, swimming, and hanging out with his friends.



Aidan Connolly is the son of Patrick and Susan Connolly and will be graduating from Emmaus High School. He plans to attend University of Vermont and major in Environmental Engineering.

He is the president of the Envirothon Club at Emmaus, taking second and third place as a school last year in the competition. He was a member of the jazz band for four years, winning best trumpet section for the past three years. During his Senior year he participated in college classes at DeSales and LCCC in philosophy and entrepreneurship.

Aidan is a member of the National Honors Society, Outdoor Adventure Club, Foreign Culture Club, and Ski Club. Aidan competed in the Science Fair and History Day throughout his high school career. He made it to states for Science Fair his freshmen and sophomore year, and made it to states for History Day during his sophomore and senior years. He has won the Academic Excellence Award, giving him a free college class at DeSales, and won the Science and History excellence awards.

Out of school, Aidan has worked for a local carpenter, Rustic Rehab, leading him to create his own small woodworking business from his backyard. In his free time Aidan enjoys skiing, mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking, playing trumpet, and woodcarving.



Carter Lowell is the son of Ann and Geoff Lowell and will be graduating from Emmaus High School. He plans to attend Penn State University and major in Architectural Engineering.

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He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 131 in Wescosville, and is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow. He has played percussion in the symphonic and marching bands throughout High School. He has participated in the Emmaus High School musicals on the lighting crew and in the pit orchestra. Carter is the historian and a member of the PA Math League, a member of the TSA Engineering Team, and a member of the Academic Team. He also played on the Emmaus High School golf team for two years. He is a member of the National Honor Society, the Tri-M Music Honor Society, and has received awards in Academic Achievement each year in high school.

He has been a ski instructor at Bear Creek, and is currently a math instructor at Mathnasium.

On Being an Engineer

Michael Basta, PE, Pres. PSPE

Good Evening, my name is Michael Basta and I am the current President of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers. Our meeting this evening is certainly different from what we envisioned earlier this year. I am really glad that we were able to utilize Zoom to take this time to honor our scholarship recipients.

Are any parents here tonight engineers or architects?

Yes. Then you know what a wonderful profession, full of opportunities, your child is joining.

For all of you, it must be very exciting for you to watch your child begin an engineering career at such an interesting time in our world. They are entering a dynamic, challenging and rewarding profession full of opportunities for personal and professional growth. My son is a nuclear engineer and it has been a lot of fun watching him grow and develop new skills. It has given me new insights into a different engineering field.

For our scholarship recipients, there are no limits on your future and the things you can achieve as an engineer. Many engineering fields overlap and allow you to see how your specialty intertwines with other fields. Take advantage of your interactions with other engineering students to explore new ideas and how your specialty is impacted by other engineering fields.

As you begin your college career, I hope you will take advantage of the resources available through PSPE and NSPE. If your university has an engineering chapter, consider joining and taking an active part in the projects and activities available. These opportunities in combination with your academic work, will prepare you to take the EF exam in your senior year and begin the journey toward becoming a professional engineer.

As an engineer, it is your responsibility to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of those in your community. I hope you will remember that in every job you do and every project you work on and that you will always remember to treat others with dignity, respect, and fairness. If you do these things each day, you will set an example for others around you.

I wish you all the best, both with future academic work and with your professional achievements. Congratulations.

FOR THOSE WHO NEED A LITTLE TIME AWAY FROM THE GRINDSTONE AND A SMILE.....

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?

Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway...

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SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

A great way to be involved in the LVPSPE Chapter is to contribute to the **LVPSPE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. Please Contact the Valley Engineer Editor to sponsor scholarships for the remainder of the calendar year.

If you would like to contribute in any amount – please send your TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation to PA ENGINEERING FUND. Donations should be mailed to:

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P.O. Box 3441
Allentown, PA 18106

Please note “LVPSPE Scholarship Fund” on the comment line.

Or, you may also contribute via the LVPSPE website <http://www.lvpspe.org/Donations>.

Scholarship application is at <http://www.lvpspe.org/Scholarships>. Any questions regarding scholarships can be directed to

Alex Dezubay, PE
610-597-2007
Scholarship@LVPSPE.org

PSPE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation currently administers the following scholarships for engineering students:

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- \$1,000 PEF Grant: (2 awards)

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- \$2,000 Pennsylvania Engineering Foundation Grant

Applications and guidelines are on-line now at <http://www.pspe.org/scholarships>

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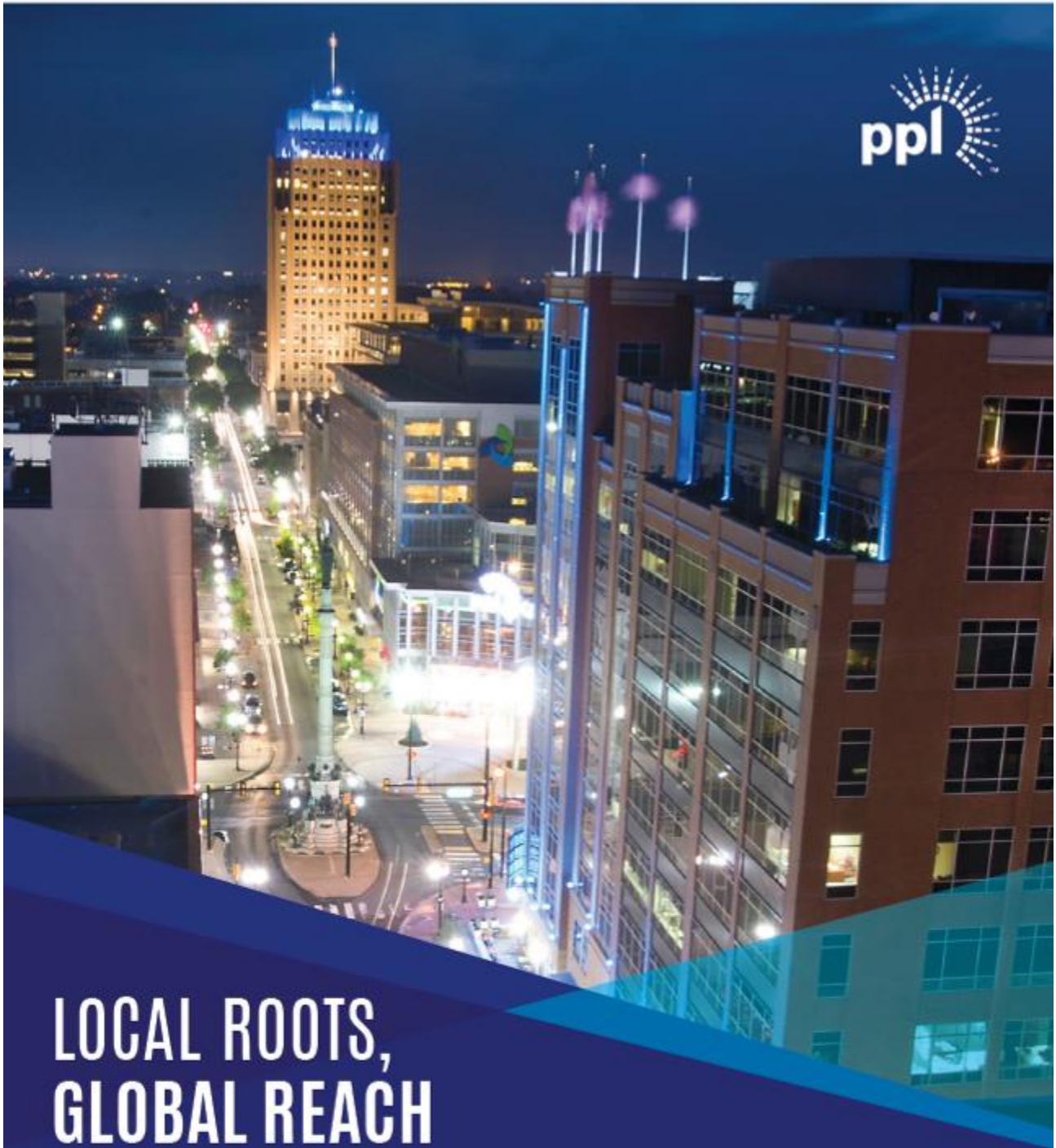
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Alt. State Director

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610-997-6659

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570-408-4615

Board of Direction Meetings

The monthly Board of Direction meetings are 6:00 PM on the second (2nd) Monday of each month. Open to all members; they are held at the office of Liberty Property Trust, 74 W. Broad Street, Suite 240, Bethlehem, PA.

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Congratulations to all of the LVPSPE scholarship recipients!

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Why do toasters always have settings that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a stupid song about him?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting dead?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough money?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

The statistics on sanity is that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends -- if they're okay, then it's you.