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# Valley Engineer Newsletter

May 2016

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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- June 1, 2016 - IronPigs baseball game, Coca-Cola Park, Allentown
- September 21-24, 2016 – PSPE Conference, DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia – Valley Forge, 301 W. Dekalb Pike, King of Prussia, PA 19406



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**LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alfred Gruenke, PE  
May 2016

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, The Lehigh Valley Chapter, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers had its annual Banquet for installation of officers for the coming year and distributing \$2,000.00 scholarships to six high school graduates who are enrolled in an engineering curriculum.

The task again fell on Alex Dezubay, aided by Don Kohn and Angelika Forndran, to choose the crème de la crème from an outstanding list of applicants.

It is noteworthy that four of the recipients were young women, a trend we have seen the last couple of years and is certainly a welcome trend!

There is a common thread in all the winners. Not only are they super-students, they also participate in sports, the Arts, various community services, and are active in school affairs. These are well-rounded individuals, whom anyone would be proud to know. They were also personable and presentable; no shrinking violets here!

### **2016 LVPSPE Scholarship Award Bios**

Katharine Elizabeth Bacher

Katie is graduating from Emmaus High School and is the daughter of Ken and Dana Bacher.

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Katie is Vice President of the school's Science Olympiad Team, is a member of the National Honor Society, participates in FIRST Robotics, and took a class at Lehigh University as part of their High School Scholars program. She was awarded AP Scholar with Distinction and was a National Merit Finalist. In addition, Katie was cross country team captain and also runs competitively on her school's track team. Last summer, Katie participated in a six-week internship at Boston University doing research for an Electrical and Computer Engineering professor. She will be attending MIT in the fall and plans to major in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and will run on the MIT's track and cross country teams.

#### Angela Justin

Angela is graduating from Southern Lehigh High School, and she is the daughter of Thomas and Mary Justin. She will be attending Cornell University and is planning to study chemical engineering. Angela plays the saxophone in her school's marching, concert, and jazz bands and is also involved with track and field. She is a member of the speech and debate team and holds a Degree of Distinction with the National Forensics League for her participation at various speech and debate tournaments. Additionally, Angela is a member of the National Honor Society and has been on the Principal's List for four years because of her academic achievement.

#### Lynn Meisse

Lynn is graduating from Stroudsburg High School and will be studying civil engineering at Lehigh University. She played four years of varsity soccer, two years of basketball, and throws the javelin. Lynn was captain of the soccer team during her junior and senior year. During soccer, she won the J. Effross Sportsmanship Award, Rookie of the year award, MVP award, and was on the All-MVC 1st team and All-EPC 2nd team. Lynn plays club soccer with the Keystone Athletic Grifos and the team is ranked #2 in Eastern PA. Through soccer, she received the EPYSA Good Citizenship Award. She is the corporate fundraising chair for the Mini-THON Executive Committee and has participated in Mini-THON since its creation three years ago. At Stroudsburg, she is a member of the Leadership Council, Progressive Club, Student Government, National Honor Society, and Sports Club. Shwe

coaches 5th and 6th grade girl's basketball and volunteers as a Vacation Bible School teacher. Heavily involved in youth group, Lynn goes on a mission trip every summer. The past two were in Baltimore, MD and York, PA. She is the daughter of Ralph and Lynn Meisse and thanks them for their support in all her endeavors.

#### Kenneth Honer

Kenneth Honer is the son of Roxanne and Kenneth Honer Sr. Kenneth has been accepted and will be attending Lehigh University's five-year Integrated Business and Engineering Honors Program. He will be working towards degrees in both Business and Mechanical Engineering. Currently, he attends Saucon Valley High School where he is Vice President of his senior class. Kenneth also holds leadership positions in his school's music program, and he conducts the competition-level marching band. Kenneth is also part of Future Business Leaders of America, Scholastic Scrimmage, and Special Olympics.

#### Brandon David Burnette

Brandon is graduating third in his class from Freedom High School. He plans to attend Georgia Institute of Technology to major in Computer Engineering. He is the captain of the varsity men's swim team, a member of BASD Mini Thon, a founding member of the BASD Programming Team, a member of National Honors Society, a co-captain of Freedom's Math Team, and the Freedom Student Athletic Council Men's Swim Team Representative. Brandon has also been a lifeguard for three years at the Bethlehem Township Community Center. He has also received numerous academic awards including: AP Scholar with Honors, Rensselaer Medal Finalist, Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award Finalist, National Merit Commended Student, 1st Place in Emmaus Programming Competition, and Freedom Men's Swimming Scholar Athlete.

#### Aikaterini (Kaiti) Stylianides

Aikaterini (Kaiti) Stylianides is a graduating senior from Stroudsburg High School. Kaiti is the daughter of Georgios and Karen Stylianides, and plans to attend the University of Hartford in the fall for Acoustical Engineering. She is a competitor for her school's Science Olympiad team and an active member of National Honors Society and

Continued on page 3

Student Government. Kaiti also sings and plays the violin and flute for various musical activities in and out of school. She is in the top ten percent of her class and holds high honors awards for academic achievement. She is a member of the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists, and was nominated for their Award of Excellence this past year. In her down time, she enjoys baking, reading, and learning to play different instruments. Kaiti would like to thank her family for supporting and encouraging her throughout her life.



Chapter President Alfred Gruenke, PE, presenting the Truman Yeager Award to Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE, F.NSPE.

Another reason for our May banquet is the installation of officers for 2016 – 2017.



Scholarship Chairman Alex Dezubay, PE; Brandon Burnette; Lynn Meisse; Kenneth Honer; Kaiti Stylianides; Angela Justin; Katharine Bacher; Chapter President Alfred Gruenke, PE.

This Chapter has received the Communications Awards from the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers twice the last couple of years. This newsletter is one reason, but our website is another reason for deserving this honor. Our website is unique in its function and ease of usage. It is a means to keep members and guests informed of Chapter's activities and to easily participate in them.

Our website was set up and is maintained by Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE, F.NSPE. Thanks to Peter's expertise, our Chapter is in the forefront of organizational technology. It is for this reason I chose Peter Staffeld, PhD, PE, F.NSPE as the recipient of our annual Truman Yeager Award.



Chapter Directors Frank Walsh, and Al Dezubay. Treasurer Raymond Szczucki, Secretary Chris Williams, State Director Angelika Forndran, Past President Kevin Campbell, Vice President and Alternate State Director Brian Kutz, and Chapter President Alfred Gruenke. Missing: Chapter Director Nicole Gasda, VP Northeast Michael Basta.

Continued on page 15

## **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.

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Or, you may 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](mailto:Scholarship@LVPSPE.org)

## **PSPE SCHOLARSHIPS**

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

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VicePresident@LVPSPE.org  
484-821-0470

### VP Northeast:

Michael F. Basta, PE  
StateVP@LVPSPE.org  
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## Board of Direction Meetings

The monthly Board of Direction meetings are 6:00 PM on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Monday of each month. Open to all members; they are held at the office of Barry Isett & Associates, 85 South Route 100, Allentown, PA.

## 2016–2017 Chapter Officers

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### Vice President:

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The new slate of officers were to be sworn in by PSPE President Elect John A. Nawn, PE. Due to a sudden conflict, he could not attend, so PSPE Past President Eric Tapper did the honors.

This is the first time in many a year that Don Kohn is not a Chapter Officer. We thank Don for his years of service, though somehow, I am sure he will remain active in Chapter affairs in the future. Thank you, Don

The Chapter also honored contributors of over \$1,000.00 to our Scholarship Fund, without whom this evening would have a vastly reduced purpose.

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Absent were Jim Yorgey of Lutron and Dass Kanapathy of Millenium Electro-Hydraulics Services

**A Tour of a Winery**

Alfred Gruenke, PE

Back in March I received an E-mail from Nicole Wilson, Bucks PSPE Chapter President, inviting me to a tour of Sand Castle winery, located along the Delaware River 12 miles north of New Hope in Bucks County. Joanie and I decided to go. Besides expectations of drinking various squeezings of the grape, we hoped to learn about something outside of our comfort zone.

Around 20 members and guests attended the presentation given by co-founder and co-owner Joseph Maxian. Joseph put winemaking into historical perspective, giving the Romans credit for introducing winemaking to Europe.

The winery is located on 72 acres on the plateau east of the Delaware, and has a spectacular view of the Bucks County and New Jersey countryside.

The first thing we learned about winemaking was its complexity. Joseph brought wine growing experts from Europe, even before the ground was cleared, to advise on soil preparation and vine selection. The enterprise started in 1974. A total of 15,000 ft. of drainage pipes were installed. The land was planted with cover grasses such as

sorghum and rye grass for a couple of years, which was then plowed under. Twenty tons per acre of cow manure was added.

Joseph explained that European vines such as vinifera produce good wines, but their roots are destroyed by various bacteria in American soil. American grapes such as Catawba or Concord don't produce good wines, but are not affected by the bacteria. The solution? To graft vinifera stems to American roots. The juncture is the 'knot' on the vine. The grafted vine grows for one to two years in a nursery before it is planted into the soil! Grapes are produced three or four years afterwards. The winery produces four tons of grape per acre.

The complexity of wine making was clearly explained by Joseph in an easy and humorous manner, which added to a pleasant evening.



The vinifera stem grafted to an American root. Note the "knot" a few inches off the ground.



Sand Castle Headquarters

Continued on page 15

Collecting the grapes, squeezing them, other preparations, etc. are pretty much automated. Yeast is added so the juice ferments. Red wine is made from red or black grapes fermenting with

their skins. To make white wine the juice is fermented without the skins.

The wine is stored in barrels made from French oak, then blended to produce the finished product.



Oak barrels holding Sand Castle's finest vintage.

We were treated to thirteen different wines with an explanation as to how they are produced and what foods augment their flavor. There was a plate of cheeses, chocolates, strawberries, and salami with instructions as to how to eat them and what wines to drink with them. Chocolates with wine? Who knew?

Unfortunately, their wines are not for sale in Pennsylvania's Wine and Spirits stores. They are available at the winery and stores in Warrington and Phoenixville.

We thank Nicole Wilson and Joseph Maxian for a very pleasant and informative tour.

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**Take me out to the ball game!**

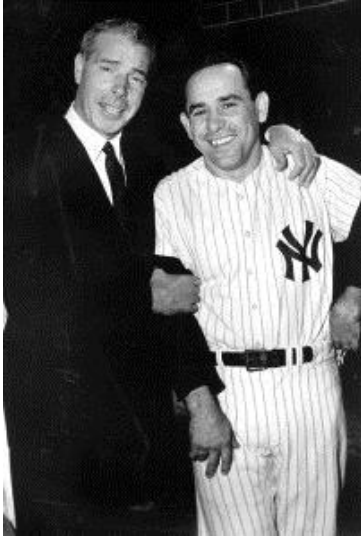
On June 1<sup>st</sup> our Chapter is scheduled to attend an IronPigs baseball game at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown. Celebrate the IronPigs by "pigging out" while enjoying an evening with your fellow Engineers. Come out and enjoy yourself! I ask you, what is more American than to take your family to see that All American game, baseball? Go to the [www.lvpspe.org](http://www.lvpspe.org) Events Page to sign up.

To commemorate the upcoming baseball game, we offer the following quotes by that great baseball philosopher, Yogi Berra.

1. Congratulations. I knew the record would stand until it was broken.
2. Half the lies they tell about me aren't true.
3. It ain't over till it's over.
4. It's deja vu all over again.
5. I usually take a two-hour nap from 1 to 4.
6. Never answer an anonymous letter.
7. We made too many wrong mistakes.
8. You can observe a lot by watching
9. The future ain't what it used to be.
10. If you don't know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else.
11. It gets late early out here.
12. If the people don't want to come out to the ballpark, nobody's going to stop them.
13. Baseball is 90 percent mental. The other half is physical.
14. Pair up in threes.
15. Why buy good luggage, you only use it when you travel.
16. Nobody goes there anymore. It's too crowded.
17. All pitchers are liars or crybabies.
18. A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore.
19. Bill Dickey is learning me his experience.
20. He hits from both sides of the plate. He's amphibious.
21. I always thought that record would stand until it was broken.
22. I can see how he (Sandy Koufax) won 25 games. What I don't understand is how he lost five.
23. I don't know (if they were men or women fans running naked across the field). They had bags over their heads.
24. I'm a lucky guy and I'm happy to be with the Yankees. And I want to thank everyone for making this night necessary.
25. I'm not going to buy my kids an encyclopedia. Let them walk to school like I did.

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Joe DiMaggio and Yogi Berra in 1955.

26. In baseball, you don't know nothing.
27. I never blame myself when I'm not hitting. I just blame the bat and if it keeps up, I change bats. After all, if I know it isn't my fault that I'm not hitting, how can I get mad at myself?
28. I never said most of the things I said.
29. It ain't the heat, it's the humility.
30. I think Little League is wonderful. It keeps the kids out of the house.
31. I wish everybody had the drive he (Joe DiMaggio) had. He never did anything wrong on the field. I'd never seen him dive for a ball, everything was a chest-high catch, and he never walked off the field.
32. So I'm ugly. I never saw anyone hit with his face.
33. Take it with a grin of salt.
34. We were overwhelming underdogs. (On the 1973 Mets)
35. The towels were so thick there I could hardly close my suitcase.
36. You should always go to other people's funerals, otherwise, they won't come to yours.
37. When you come to a fork in the road, take it.

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For me, winning isn't something that happens suddenly on the field when the whistle blows and the crowds roar. Winning is something that builds physically and mentally every day that you train and every night that you dream.  
-Emmit Smith

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He has much to be modest about.  
-Winston Churchill



A lot of good things have come out of dreaming.  
-Arthur Miller in the New Yorker

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I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble.  
-Helen Keller

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Sinning is like thinking. Those that have never done it are afraid of it; those that have done it once in a while get to like it after a while.  
-August Polinske

## PE License Plates



<http://pspe.org/store/pe-license-plates/>

PSPE members can order a vanity plate (five characters + PE) for a one-time cost of \$200, or you can receive the "next plate off the line" for \$100.

These plates feature PSPE's official logo on the left and stacked PE letters on the right. You must be an active or retired Pennsylvania PE to order a plate.

Download an official PennDOT application here and order your PE license plate today!  
<http://pspe.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/PSPE-License-Plate-Application-Form.pdf>