



## Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

# The Drawingboard

November 2007

Volume 7, Number 11

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### President's Message

*By Brian E. Flynn, P.E.  
President*



Last month, we had a presentation by the Building Department's newly formed Excavations Inspection & Audit Team. The team is led by **Timothy Lynch PE** who was one of the Building Department's first Forensic Engineers. This team is part of a Special Enforcement Plan created by the Mayor who allocated \$6 million to the Building Department in July.

The Excavations Inspections & Audits Team is inspecting sites to ensure that the proper means and methods of excavation are being used to protect workers and adjacent properties. To date, over 767 sites have been visited. 77% of these sites have received violations and 22% have received stop work orders.

The second prong of this enforcement effort is the Professional Certification Review & Audit Team. This team will investigate zoning and code compliance by inspecting professionally certified jobs and auditing professionally certified applications. The purpose of this team is to identify patterns of abuse and to recommend professionals for discipline. 285 job sites have been inspected and 155 plans have been audited. Of the plans audited, 81% received plan objections.

The third team is the Special Enforcement Team. This team's purpose is to identify and pursue professionals, building owners and builders who blatantly disregard code and zoning regulations. This team will prosecute bad actors and repeat offenders. This team has 50 cases in development with 81 sites being monitored.

[\*\(continued next page\)\*](#)

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The Building Department and the Mayor have been taken to task for allowing the unrelenting collateral damage around construction sites, consisting of building collapses and deaths, to continue unabated. They didn't make the rules, Albany did and Albany still can't find the back bone needed to license contractors. But the Mayor and the Building Department still have to live with the current rules. So now, they are going after those who they can go after, the design professionals.

If you file Professionally Certified plans, be sure that you have followed the zoning regulations and applicable codes because they are looking to make a few good examples to show that they are doing their job. If you are signing and sealing plans for others without being fully involved (ie rubber stamping) then good luck to you. I know several attorneys who would be interested in your case.

### **Unauthorized practice of the professions or use of a professional title**

In July, the Commissioner of Education had proposed to add Part 31 to the Rules of the Board of Regents (8 NYCRR Part 31) relating to civil enforcement proceedings for the unauthorized practice of the professions and the unauthorized use of a professional title. It will go into effect on November 15th of this year. Originally proposed by NYSSPE and after much lobbying by Engineers, the Legislature had enacted Section 6516 of the Education Law in 2003, authorizing the State Education Department to issue cease and desist orders, conduct administrative proceedings, impose civil penalties and order restitution in instances of the unauthorized practice of a profession or the unauthorized use of a professional title. Specifically, this statute permits the Department to issue a cease and desist order when the Department has a reasonable cause to believe that any person has violated section 6512 or 6513 of the Education Law.

Although Section 6516 of the Education Law was effective on September 30, 2003, the Department was unable to initiate any civil enforcement proceedings or impose any civil penalties at that time because the legislation did not include necessary funding. The Department now has available resources to begin limited implementation of the administrative procedures established in Education Law Section 6516, anticipating legislative approval of a bill that would fund the cost of complete implementation with a surcharge of \$10 for each licensed professional's re-registration. The proposed amendment is

[\(continued next page\)](#)

### Nominating Committee

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Sal Galletta, P.E.	(212) 788-8199
Gregory Georges, P.E.	(718) 274-4800
Michael Karantinidis, P.E.	(718) 726-2226

### Chapter Seeks Donations to PDC Library

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

Queens Chapter President Brian Flynn 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.

### Please Note:

Members are advised that the Queens Chapter meeting on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007 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 non-members 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

needed to implement the provisions of Section 6516 of the Education Law by specifying the requirements for the submission of complaints, investigations, hearing requests and stay requests; the contents of a cease and desist order; the standards for the imposition of civil penalties and restitution and the procedures for hearings and appeals.

Part 31 will go into effect on November 15th of this year. Up until now, the State Education Department could only go after licensed professionals who misbehaved but not all of those who would practice without a license with impunity. Now those who would pretend to be a professional can be targeted and prosecuted.

### American Engineer Alliance Annual Dinner

The AEA held its annual dinner at Bayard's in downtown Manhattan on Wednesday October 24th. Unfortunately past NSPE President **Robert Miller** could not attend as his flight was badly delayed by the weather. A panel discussion was held with members of City Government and others to present the Mayor's plan for sustainable growth and the vision for New York City in the year 2030 (Plan NYC). The bulk of the plan depends heavily on the engineering design and development of our infrastructure.

Previously, **Sal Galletta PE** had presented to members of the New York City Council recent developments in promoting New York City Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure. He discussed was the lack of constituency for maintaining bridges, water infrastructure and roads and that the infrastructure of the City is now run by the budget office instead of an Engineering office. Sal had pointed out that the Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure could be tied to the Mayor's 2030 plan. The Plan NYC contains three major areas: 1) maintaining the City's infrastructure 2) providing housing and 3) embracing principals of sustainability.

### NYSSPE Fall Professional Development Conference

This year the state's Professional Development Conference was held at Six Flags Great Escape Lodge & Indoor Waterpark located in Queensbury, NY. It was good to see friends and colleagues from around the state. On Friday, there were a number of interesting seminars for continuing education. One of the highlights was a seminar given by our very own **Joel Miele Sr, PE**. Joel gave the complete history of the development of the NYC water supply system from colonial days to today along with his own experiences as the DEP Commissioner. **Jen Miller** put together a relaxing summer time theme dinner Friday night with

[\(continued next page\)](#)

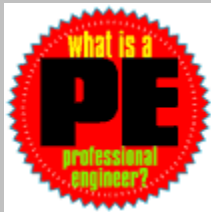
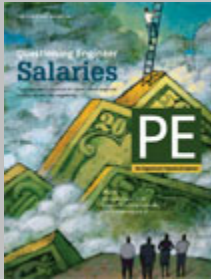
casual attire and attitude. The State Board meeting and practice division meetings were held Saturday morning with the usual fanfare. And of course everyone enjoyed the indoor water park during their stay.

### **Professional Design Center's Holiday Party**

This year the Professional Design Center is holding its annual Holiday Party on Thursday, December 6th. This is the annual party where the AIA and NSPE hold their joint December meeting to induct the PDC officers and the newly elected AIA officers. Details will be given at the chapter meeting on Thursday. A separate flyer will be sent with details.

### **PDC Lecture**

Otis Elevator is presenting a lecture on Elevators 101 for 2 PDH credits. It will be held on November 27th at 6:30 PM. See the attached flyer for details.



### **Hotline for Members**

Are you an NSPE member with a question about engineering ethics, licensure, or law? If so, call 888-285-NSPE (6773) or e-mail [legal@nspe.org](mailto:legal@nspe.org). Please provide your 9-digit NSPE member number.

## **Upcoming Meeting Information**

### **Our Next Chapter Meeting**

***Thursday, November 15th, 2007 – 6:30 PM***

Please join us as **Luciana Gardioli, P.E.** of [Hilti](#) North America gives an informative, educational presentation of Anchor Basic Theory and Creep Behavior of Adhesive Anchoring Systems.

Topics will include:

- *Anchor working principles*
- *Failure Modes*
- *Comparison between Adhesive and Mechanical anchors*
- *General anchoring applications*
- *Anchors for use in Tension Zones of Concrete members*
- *Code requirements*
- *Current creep behavior tests*
- *Changes in code ACI 308*

### ***Location:***

**[422 Weaver Ave., Fort Totten, New York](#)**

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## 2007 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:

**Directors' Meeting**  
**(6:30 PM)**

November 1<sup>st</sup>

December 6<sup>th</sup>

**Membership**  
**Meeting**  
**(6:30PM)**



November 15<sup>th</sup>

December 20<sup>th</sup>








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## Order Form

The Queens Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers will publish the chapter's 2007 Annual Membership Directory. Our members are found in key government agency positions, as well as senior and partner positions in private engineering firms, which design, specify and consult on Construction projects throughout the Metropolitan area. When they need to find a source for specific requirements they turn to their annual Queens NSPE Membership Directory. Now you and your firm can reach these key decision making individuals when they are looking for your services by placing an ad in the up coming 2006 Queens NSPE Membership directory.

Attached is an order form to place an advertisement in the 2007 Membership Directory.

In addition to our annual journal, the Queens Engineering Society Sponsors numerous events and seminars to further inform our members of the new developments in industry. We hope that you will help support our efforts. Please see the order form on the next page

**QUEENS COUNTY CHAPTER  
OF THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**OFFICERS:**

BRIAN E. FLYNN, PE	GEORGE L. TAVOULAREAS, PE	JOHN SGOUROS, PE	FIL KEFALAS, PE
President	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Treasurer

Please reserve an ad as indicated below in the 2007 Queens Chapter Membership Directory.  
Enclosed is our check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the size ad selected below:

**(STANDARD AD POSITIONS (BLACK & WHITE ADS))**

- ☐ Full Page Ad (7-1/2" deep x 4-1/4" wide) .....\$ 400.00
- ☐ One-Half Page Ad (3-3/4" deep x 4-1/4" wide).....\$ 300.00
- ☐ One-Third Page Ad (2-1/2" deep x 4-1/4").....\$ 165.00

**SPECIAL POSITIONS (BLACK & WHITE ADS)**

- ☐ Back Cover (7-1/2" deep x 4-1/4" wide) ..... \$ 800.00
- ☐ Inside Front Cover (7-1/2" x 4-1/4" wide)..... \$ 700.00
- ☐ Inside Back Cover (7-1/2" x 4-1/4")..... \$ 600.00
- ☐ Page 1 (7-1/2 x 4-1/4") ..... \$ 550.00
- ☐ Forward (7-1/2" x 4-1/4") (Before Member Section)..... \$ 500.00

**ADDITIONAL CHARGES**

- ☐ Spot (Single) Color (Each Color) Please choose color below..... \$ 160.00  
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Individual \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Please include your Artwork or camera ready copy. **Artwork Specifications** (Computer Formats): PDF; P65; EPS (INQUIRE); TIF; BMP; Others. Camera ready copy accepted OR We'll Make Your AD for You. Please email your computer format artwork to: [BEFlynnPE@aol.com](mailto:BEFlynnPE@aol.com) or mail it on computer media in PC format to our office: 78-66 79<sup>th</sup> Place, Glendale, NY 11385. In order to meet the printing schedule, all ads & order forms must be received no later than **October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007**

# PROFESSIONAL DESIGN CENTER

422 Weaver Ave.  
Fort Totten, Bayside, NY 11356



American Institute of Architects



Queens Chapter

**Queens Chapter**  
New York State Society of Professional Engineers

NYS Society of Professional Engineers

2007

P D C Lecture Series

2-07

# Lecture

Date: Tuesday; November 27, 2007  
Time: 6:30PM to 9:00PM

At

422 Weaver Ave. Fort Totten, Bayside, Queens

## 2 Continuing Education Credits

Admission fee is \$50 for AIA & NYSSPE members; \$60 for non-members.

Please make your check payable to: Professional Design Center and mail to :  
George Tavoulareas, P.E. 272 Clinton Road, Garden City, NY 11530

### PRESENTED BY:

Darrin Ellis, Otis Elevator  
Paul DiNatale, AIA

### THE PROGRAM:

Elevator 101 covers the following:

- elevator history from about 1852 to present; the types of elevators in use today (hydraulic and traction); major elevator components and key design and planning considerations for buildings in relation to elevators

Free to the public

Buffet dinner 6:15 pm-7:00pm included

Contact George Tavoulareas, PE at 917-299-2954 for further information

*Dedicated to the advancement of Architecture and Engineering*



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# Annual Holiday Party



Thursday December 6, 2007 @ 6:30 PM  
422 Weaver Ave.  
Fort Totten, Bayside, Queens

**Come Join Us as we Swear in our New  
Officers and Celebrate the Holidays**

**\$50 per person on or before December 4<sup>th</sup>**

**\$60 per person after December 4<sup>th</sup> or at the door**

**Please Call Bob LoPinto to RSVP on or before December 4<sup>th</sup> at  
(516) 791-2300.**

**Please make your check payable to: Professional Design Center and mail to :  
George Tavoulareas, P.E. 272 Clinton Road, Garden City, NY 11530**