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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGEBY JOSEPH JAKUBOWSKI, P.E., LEED AP

I know it's a stretch to say "Happy New Year" in the middle of February, but since this is the first newsletter of the year I think I can start off this message with it. After the last twelve months we've experienced, we deserve any reason we can find to celebrate. Hopefully 2021 has started off well, and you, your families, and colleagues are remaining safe and healthy.

With February comes one of my favorite celebrations, Engineers Week. Typically the last week of February, the event was founded by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) to promote public awareness of engineers' contributions and critical work, and engage the next generation of engineers. NSPE has many promotional activities planned, including Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day or "Girl Day" on

February 25, 2021 and World Engineering Day on March 4, 2021. My highlight has always been the Engineers Week banquet, which is hosted annually by the Delaware Engineering Society (NSPE Delaware Chapter). For those who haven't attended, it's a great night that includes networking, awarding of scholarships, attendance by newly inducted professional engineers, description of ACEC Delaware's Engineering Excellence Awards, and honoring the Young Engineer of the Year and Engineer of the Year.

For me, the night is analogous to a reunion or homecoming-type event. When I returned to the area in the mid-2000's, I attended my first banquet at the DuPont Country Club and I was excited to reconnect with many familiar faces. I had a great time and the night flew by, and remember sitting in the balcony being pretty surprised with how enjoyable it was. I've attended pretty regularly since then, always looking forward to socializing with friends, co-workers, colleagues, clients and new contacts, along with those who I don't stay in touch or see often.

The other reason I enjoy Engineers Week is that it is one very few times that we get to brag and celebrate what we do. Practicing engineering is consistently ranked as one of the most prestigious professions and respected careers along with medical professionals and first responders. Between the day-to-day stress, meetings, deadlines, societal issues, and maintaining work-life balance, it's very easy to forget the accomplishments and impacts of engineers. We do really, really interesting and fascinating projects. We solve really, really challenging problems that the public doesn't always understand or appreciate. Engineers are creative, responsible, and remarkable people, and we take ourselves for granted.

Along with the networking portion of the night, and also discovering what other innovative projects firms have completed, I'm always intrigued to hear the stories and journey of Delaware's Young Engineer of the Year and Engineer of the Year. For this year, DAPE is excited to congratulate Scott Rathfon and Jennalee Fede. While I haven't interacted professionally often with Scott, I am very familiar with his accomplishments, projects, and the Century Engineering team. I've also been able to celebrate a few University of Delaware Blue Hen touchdowns with him, and am friends with his daughter Dana, also an engineer.

I've been lucky to know Jennalee for over 10 years, and have had the pleasure of seeing her grow from one of the first interns I was involved with hiring and supervising at Duffield Associates. Although she was involved in a discipline that wasn't on her career track, she displayed the potential and drive on a daily basis. She was also patient with a manager (me) who didn't really know what he was doing. She has become a good friend, and I'm very excited that she's being recognized for her accomplishments. I hope she can enjoy the award with her husband Mike, family and co-workers.

Details on the Engineers Week virtual celebration are included in this newsletter, along with a few other reasons to celebrate, including recent awards to DAPE members who have contributed locally and to the NCEES Northeast Zone. We also describe upcoming events and continuing education opportunities sponsored by DAPE. If you are interested in helping DAPE with these events, serving the engineering community, or promoting engineering and licensure, our website contains summaries of all of the committees. Additionally, the majority of our council and committee meetings are open to the public and are virtual. I encourage you to attend to see if it's a good fit. If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions, feel free to reach out to me at jjakubowski@harvardenv.com or DAPE at office@dape.org.

Happy Engineers Week!! Don't forget to tell your friends and colleagues about our accomplishments and projects!! Although we won't be able to celebrate in person this year, I hope to "see" all of you online on February 25, 2021.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY IEN WOOTTEN

Due in large part to the cancellation of the April 2020 PE Exam, we welcomed a bumper crop of new engineers in January after they successfully passed the October 2020 exam (see page 4 for a full list). While it is our members' responsibility to read and understand both the Delaware Professional Engineers' Act and Delaware's Engineering Code of Ethics, DAPE sends a communication specifically to individuals that have been approved for an initial license here in Delaware, with a few recommendations for maintaining that license. I've summarized those recommendations here, as these are useful reminders for all of our members:

- 1) All Delaware PE's need to renew their license by June 30 in even-numbered years. We send reminders (currently to the work email you have provided). It is your responsibility to keep track of this deadline and renew your license. Late fees are assessed beginning July 1, no exceptions, and increase \$50 each month up to \$300. Mark your calendar.
- 2) If your contact information changes, be sure to let us know, or update your own contact information at www.dape.org.
- 3) Be sure to read our CPC guidelines, and develop a system for recordkeeping. DAPE audits up to 5% of our membership after each renewal period, and automatically audits any PEs that renew late. This is a quick and easy process if you've met the requirements and kept good records.
- 4) We offer 1-2 free training opportunities for our members each year to help with meeting your CPC requirements (and we are working on scheduling ethics training for this spring).
- 5) If you have not met your CPC requirements or are not able to renew your license for some other reason, know that you have the option to be placed into "Inactive" status. This must be done prior to a renewal deadline.
- 6) Add no-reply@dape.org to your email address book, so you receive our notices.

- 7) You can always log in to your DAPE account to print a current wallet card. We do not mail wallet cards or certificates again after each renewal (although you can purchase a duplicate certificate for \$15).
- 8) We are always happy to answer your questions. Email office@dape.org or call 302-323-4588.

Our Distinguished Service Award winner (see page 5) is typically honored at a volunteer appreciation event each January. While we have postponed this celebration for a time when we can meet in person, I would like to send my thanks and appreciation to all of our Council and Committee members for sharing your time and expertise with DAPE. I marvel at and appreciate the flexibility and commitment of this group of dedicated volunteers.



PLS/PE OVERLAPPING PRACTICE ISSUES

A representative from the Delaware Board of Professional Land Surveyors attended a recent DAPE Law Enforcement & Ethics Committee meeting to express concerns that while Professional Engineers are able to perform land surveys by law, they should be doing so in accordance with the minimum standards set by the PLS Board. Additionally, just as firms that offer or provide engineering services are required to have a Certificate of Authorization from DAPE, firms that offer or provide land surveying services need to be licensed under Delaware Chapter 24 Section 27.

DAPE is planning a technical forum to further discuss these issues with our members. Save the date for Tuesday May 18, 2021 from 9:00AM to 11:00 AM (attendees will receive 2PDHs – 1 ethics, 1 technical). Details will follow once the event has been finalized and panelists confirmed.

NCEES NEWS

DAPE Council members attend the NCEES Northeast Zone meetings and Annual meetings, where representatives from jurisdictions around the country meet to discuss topics such as model licensure law, licensure mobility, law enforcement, threats to professional licensing, FE&PE exam administration, and engineering ethics. The 2020 Zone meetings were cancelled, and the 2020 annual meeting (originally scheduled to be held in Chicago) was presented in webinar format. This spring the Zone meetings will be held virtually, and NCEES is planning a series of "State of the Council" meetings leading up to the Zone meetings.

One of the highlights of the Northeast Zone meeting is the presentation of the coveted Northeast Zone Distinguished Service Award aka "Enny" award. DAPE can claim two recent Enny Award honorees:

2019 - Charles McAllister, P.E.

2020 - Carmine Balascio, Ph.D., P.E.

Despite the extra challenges that 2020 presented for all of us, NCEES relocated their headquarters to Greenville, South Carolina. They responded to exam capacity issues caused by the pandemic with a multi-pronged approach including adding a 2nd day to the October 2020 and April 2021 pencil and paper exam administrations, fast-tracking transitioning exams to computer-based formats, and planning a regional PE exam administration for Civil engineering disciplines in January 2021. The last pencil and paper PE exam administration is now set to be October 2021. NCEES also launched a podcast series in 2020, and has increased services to member boards such as advocacy and meeting planning.

You can find the latest NCEES news and subscribe to the "Licensure Exchange" – a bi-monthly publication dedicated to opinions and ideas regarding the licensure of engineers and surveyors – here: https://ncees.org/news/

WELCOME DELAWARE'S NEWEST PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Thanks to a new influx of exam proctors, DAPE was able to administer the October 2020 pencil and paper exam over two days at a new location, while maintaining many new COVID-related safety precautions. So now we get to welcome 72 new PEs to our ranks (this list also includes members that passed a computer-based exam in the last few months.

License	Name	License	Name
25136	Thaer Abuqare	24399	James Knoll
24227	Emilie Albert	24291	Kevin Konzelman
23787	Natalia Belkova	23508	Ka Man Agnes Lee
22936	Abebaw Berihun	22901	Rebecca Li
25179	Molly Blakely	23471	Craig Lynch
25150	John Brennan	25152	Jake Matchesky
22290	Troy Brestel	25244	Margaret McDevitt
24104	Kirsten Brown	24757	Victoria McHugh
25849	Clayton Carlson	22804	Tyler Mcquesten
23862	Anthony Casale	23751	Casey Miller
25243	Elizabeth Chandler	23816	Collin Miller
22706	Jeffrey Christie	24469	David Momose
22027	Vincent Ciarlo	25603	Richard Murray
24617	Barry Colford	23998	Brad Newhard
24122	Garrett Conover	24459	Amanda Ondash
23137	Andrew Davis	24958	Eric Orticelle
24476	Brigid Deely	25261	Andrew Peng
25300	Nicholas Donlon	23846	Smith Purdum
24485	G. Gregory DuBois Jr.	25220	Nathan Rahaim
24609	ldikem Etotok	24316	Paul Reutter
24092	Ian Fairorth	25281	Alexander Ricci
24225	Lindsay Frazier	25210	Ahmed Saaid
24796	Richard Getts	24159	Michael Schickling
24118	Jeremiah Gonzalo	24864	Andrew Schott
24186	Michael Haddad	24306	Tyler Seifrit
23652	Britton Hager	25002	Paul Sensenig
25902	Tim Hampson	23814	Andrew Short
24390	Benjamin Hearn	24362	Daniel Slavin
21896	Dennis Heyman	24870	Cara Smalley
24650	Christopher Holloway	22989	Keegan Stewart
24558	Sarah Hoye	24915	Aidan Suiter
24515	Jennifer Huffmire	23676	Julie Sweeney
22361	Melinda Jean-Louis Eason	25662	Daniel Sweetser
24722	Robert Johnson	24550	Sean Weaver
24389	Fallon Kider	26139	John Wissler
25096	Kyle Kincaid	24007	Lei Xu

2021 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Robert L. Leitsch, P.E. (ret.)



Congratulations to DAPE's 2021 Distinguished Service Award winner Robert Leitsch, P.E. (ret.). Bob retired from his position as a consulting engineer in 2018, yet he continues to put his engineering skills to great use as a member of DAPE's Law Enforcement & Ethics Committee, which he joined in 2014. More recently Bob joined DAPE's Examining Committee. His experience on these two committees was a great help to a recent Ad Hoc Committee that revised the law and ethics questionnaire included on DAPE's PE license application.

Bob was issued his initial P.E. license in 1979 in New York where he started his engineering career. He was licensed by Comity in Delaware in 1994

when he moved here and was also licensed in Pennsylvania in 2000.

Bob received his BSME from Villanova University in 1971, and served in the US Air Force after college, before working for Carrier Air Conditioning Company, first in Field Service in Philadelphia and then on to machine design engineering at the main plant in Syracuse. This work involved large tonnage centrifugal and steam absorption chillers for commercial applications. His consulting projects have included energy studies, systems analysis, and full design development for new and retrofit work for commercial, educational, health care, industrial, prisons, and various government buildings.

Currently Bob works part-time as a Staff Guide at Hagley Museum in Greenville, Delaware, and puts his engineering background to good use there as well. He introduces visitors to the history of the DuPont family, the powder yards, and industrial development in America during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Bob also works in Hagley's STEM education programs for young children, middle school students, and entire families and sometimes gets to operate Hagley's steam engine exhibit.

2021 COUNCIL OPENINGS

Each year three Council seats are vacated. In 2021, the following Council seats will be up for election: "Other" Engineering, Government and Chemical Engineering. If you are interested in getting involved in DAPE's Council, a good place to start is volunteering on a committee. You can find more information on committees at www.dape.org, or call Executive Director Jen Wootten to discuss your interests.

DELDOT BEGINS MAJOR I-95 REHABILITATION PROJECT

By: Jason Hastings, MCE, PE – DelDOT Chief of Bridges & Structures

As you may be aware, DelDOT has been planning a major rehabilitation project on a 4-mile stretch of I-95 through the heart of Wilmington. This project started in the late summer of 2014, on the heels of the emergency closure and repairs to the I-495 bridge over the Christina River. Both the I-95 Viaduct and the I-95 Brandywine River Bridge were identified as needing major rehabilitation work through DelDOT's bridge management and prioritization program. Noting the age of interstate through this stretch and the successful reconstruction of the portion of I-95 in 2000, the Department decided to fully invest in a corridor rehabilitation project, getting as much infrastructure repaired in one shot as we could, rather than initiate projects to address individual elements, tying up traffic in and around the city for years to come.

I-95 through the city was constructed in 1964 and widened in 1978, adding the Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard ramps as well. A structure maintenance project on the Viaduct was completed in 2001, but otherwise, no major rehabilitation or reconstruction projects have taken place in its nearly 50 years in service. The goal of the current I-95 Rehabilitation, also known as the Restore the Corridor project, was to bring the existing infrastructure back to a state of good repair with a 30-year service life extension.

This means that this stretch of I-95 should not have a need for major repair work for at least 30 years once complete. Obviously, routine maintenance will still be needed during this time, but these efforts can be done during off-peak times with minimal impacts to the travelling public.

Work in this project includes the rehabilitation of 19 bridges, rehabilitation or reconstruction of 3 miles of pavement, replacement of 3 miles of concrete median barrier, upgrading several miles of guardrail, and upgrading signing and lighting throughout the corridor to bring them up to current standards. In addition, safety and capacity improvements are being made at the 2nd Street on-ramp to I-95 Southbound and the Adams Street on-ramp to I-95 Northbound across the Brandywine River Bridge. The project limits extend from the I-495 and I-95 southern junction to the exit to US202.



Figure 1 I-95 Rehabilitation Project Limits

This project will have major traffic impacts in and around the city, so we used an alternative contracting method called Construction Manager/General Contractor, or CM/GC, to deliver this complex project more efficiently. CM/GC allows DelDOT to select a contractor based on qualifications during the design phase. DelDOT selected Kiewit Construction, a global construction company with extensive experience delivering complex projects on schedule, as the CM/GC contractor. Kiewit partnered with DelDOT and the design team of Whitman Requardt & Associates, Pennoni Associates, and TY Lin International, to refine the design around Kiewit's resources and approach, as well as develop innovative solutions and mitigate risks prior to construction. This collaboration allowed us to advance 3 early work packages to reduce potential risks to budget and schedule. The 3 early work packages included:

- installing the demolition shields over Amtrak to remove Amtrak coordination from the critical path
- reconstructing the shoulder on I-95 southbound and constructing the median crossovers to allow for the contraflow traffic scheme to be installed on day 1 of the mainline contract
- procure long-lead items, such as bearings and expansion joints, and large quantity items, such as temporary concrete barrier, in advance of beginning the work.

Prior to hiring the CM/GC, DelDOT had broken out 3 advance contracts to get additional work activities completed before the mainline work began. The reconstruction of the Jackson Street/2nd Street on-ramp to I-95 Southbound, which was complete on time on December 31, 2020, by RE Pierson, was the first advance contract advertised. In addition, contracts for advance bearing replacements (JD Eckman) and advance sign structure construction (Fletcher Creamer) were also awarded.

As I noted above, the project will have significant impacts to traffic, so extensive planning and coordination has gone into the development of the maintenance of traffic (MOT) scheme. This scheme was predicated on the requirements that we can only have long-term lane closures on I-95 for no more than 2 years, access in and out of the city must be maintained at all times, and the work zone must be safe for both travelers and the contractor. The MOT scheme has 3 main phases – Phase 1 where all traffic is on the Southbound side while the contractor works on the Northbound side, Phase 2 where traffic is switched, and Phase 3 where the contractor is removing the crossovers and finishing up the

work. During Phases 1 and 2, 1 lane will be closed in each direction, meaning the sections currently with 3 lanes will have 2 lanes and the sections with 2 lanes will be down to 1 lane.



Figure 2 Aerial View of Phase 1 of the MOT (Looking North)

Due to the size and complexity of the project and the significant traffic impacts, public outreach was a major emphasis over the past two and a half years. Dozens of presentations were made to various businesses and civic groups, as well as the typical public meetings and coordination with city and state officials. The Community Advisory Group, or CAG, was established early on, consisting of representatives of major employers, civic and other community groups, state and local officials, emergency responders, and other organizations, with the purpose of acting as liaisons to help us get the work out to their colleagues, members, or constituents. A project specific website, www.RestoretheCorridor.com, was established and provides all information related to the project.

Although the Restore the Corridor project has been in the making for nearly 7 years, the hardest part is just beginning. That said, we have a good team working together to ensure our requirement of no more than 2 years of long-term lane closures on I-95 will be met. To stay informed over the next 2 years, go to the website to sign up for alerts to keep informed of the progress and impacts of the project through construction.

SEALS, STAMPS AND SIGNATURES

One of most frequently asked questions received here at DAPE is some variation of "Am I allowed to seal.....".

To start to answer such questions, we direct PEs and members of the public to the Delaware Professional Engineers' Act. Specifically, Sections 2829 & 2830:

§2829. Seals, Stamps and Signature.

- (a) Each licensee shall obtain an embossing seal of the design authorized by the Council, bearing the licensee's name, license number and the legend "professional engineer". Failure of the licensee to substantiate to the Council, within six (6) months of the licensee's application approval date, that such a seal has been procured will result in the licensee being placed by the Council in "delinquent status".
 - (b) In addition to the embossing seal required by the foregoing provisions of this section,
- (1) licensees may procure and use a stamp containing the same data as the embossing seal, or
- (2) licensees may use a seal, signature, and date that can be created or transmitted electronically.

§2830. Dating, Signing and Sealing.

- (a) All final drawings, specifications and documents involving the practice of engineering as defined in this chapter when issued or filed for public record shall be dated and bear the signature and seal of the licensee(s) who prepared or approved them.
- (b) If original tracings are sealed or stamped, the date of sealing or stamping must appear under the signature.
- (c) The holder of a temporary permit, using the seal of the State designated by the Council on his permit, shall seal all final drawings, specifications, and documents in accordance with this section. The permittee shall, in addition, write the permittee's permit number and the permittee's signature immediately adjacent to the imprint of the seal.

Additionally, DAPE's Code of Ethics may help answer a seal-related question:

2. THE ENGINEER SHALL PERFORM SERVICES ONLY IN AREAS OF HIS COMPETENCE.

A. The engineer shall undertake to perform engineering only when qualified by education or experience in the areas of professional engineering involved.

B. The engineer may accept an assignment requiring education or experience outside his areas of competence, provided that such areas will be performed by a Professional Engineer or otherwise qualified associates, consultants, or employees. He may then sign and seal the documents for the total project. The engineer shall not affix his seal to any such document not prepared under his supervisory control and review.

While the law states what must be sealed and allowable formats, it doesn't prevent building officials from setting additional requirements regarding sealing (provided they don't conflict with our law).

Recently, DAPE members have inquired about the New Castle County Recorder of Deeds' new specification that "any seal shall be affixed near and not over the official signature in a sharp, legible, and permanent manner suitable for photographical and electronical reproduction." This Recorder of Deeds requirement also applies to Professional Land Surveyors and Notaries Public.

Members expressed concerns that their practice of signing over their PE seal was in part to prevent fraudulent use of their seal. DAPE was able to clarify that the Recorder of Deeds' requirement pertained specifically to the official "engineer's certification statement" on plan submissions, so the office could identify the engineer of record.

DELAWARE ENGINEERS WEEK

Delaware Engineers Week Virtual Celebration

February 25th



DAPE Congratulates the NSPE-DE 2021 Delaware Young Engineer of the Year and Engineer of the Year award winners. Nominees for these awards are made by those in the engineering industry in the State of Delaware and are selected by the past presidents of the Delaware Engineering Society (now NSPE-DE). This year's award winners are Scott Rathfon, P.E. (Engineer of the Year) and Jennalee Fede, P.E. (Young Engineer of the Year).

Scott Rathfon, P.E. is a Professional Engineer licensed in multiple states throughout the mid-Atlantic region. He has over 40 years of comprehensive engineering experience in various areas of the civil engineering field as well as project and program management. Scott has been employed by Century Engineering in the Delaware office for over 33 years and has been involved in numerous projects throughout the State. Scott has guided the Delaware operations for over 20 years and has been involved with various design and construction projects throughout the State of Delaware, as well as surrounding states. He has been involved in some of the largest infrastructure projects in the State including the SR1, US 13 Relief Route project and the recently completed US 301 project. One of the highlights of his engineering career was having the opportunity to work on the management team for the design and construction of the cable-stayed bridge

over the C&D Canal. Many of the projects he has been involved with over the years have been recognized in the state for their excellence by his peers.

Jennalee Fede, P.E. has worked for Duffield Associates, LLC for over 10 years and began as an intern back in May 2010. Currently a project manager in Duffield's Environmental Division, she splits her time between the Wilmington, DE and Philadelphia, PA offices. She has worked on various projects throughout the Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey, involving environmental investigations, permitting, remediation, and regulatory compliance for various residential, commercial, and industrial sites. Her clients have varied from private developers and realtors to government and utility companies. She takes pride in each project she works on, looking to provide value to her client while also making a positive impact on her community. She is active in various professional organizations, secretary of the Delaware Section of the American Water Resource Association (DEAWRA) and active member of the Society of Women Environmental Professionals (SWEP), Delaware Real Estate Women (DREW), and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary (PDE). She is also active in her community, participating in the Christina River Cleanup (15+ years), Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup (8+ years), and various food and clothing drives. She has also assisted the Delaware Association of Professional Engineers (DAPE) with mentoring and presentations regarding the importance of professional licensure to undergraduate future engineers attending the University of Delaware.

2020-2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS



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TERM EXPIRES

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