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JUNE 2023



DAPE NEWS

President's Message

BY MICHAEL CLENDANIEL, P.E.

I want to wish everyone a happy start to summer. I hope everyone gets to enjoy a break from our day to day. I also want to thank everyone who was able to join us for the night out at the Wilmington Blue Rocks game in May.

Our April ethics training filled up quickly but luckily we recorded the event and numerous members were able to view it afterwards and obtain the continuing education credits (links to the recording and a PDH website are still available in the [News and Updates section of our home page](#)).

This is a friendly reminder we are a year away from having to renew your license and to ensure everyone fulfills their requirements.

In case anyone is not aware we introduced [House Bill 129](#) and we are currently awaiting approval from the State Senate and Governor. We removed the definition of successor engineer from the bill ([described in our last newsletter](#)) and I have appointed an Ad Hoc committee to work on crafting a definition of the term "successor engineer" that will meet DAPE's needs for enforcement without any unintended consequences for State agencies and engineering firms. Our goal is to have legislation that is acceptable to everyone by January 2024.

have had an effect on the situation. First from the flash point of the materials in the bridge that yielded under the extreme heat created by the accident. It is amazing to see the engineering that has gone into the repair lanes of the highway to allow it to open within two weeks of the collapse. I know this is a special situation given it wouldn't work in every situation. It took some quick creative engineering thought to design and implement the fix within a day or two once demolishing was complete.

This quick thinking and implementation by the crews performing the work allowed traffic to return to using I95 sooner than expected. For most of us that perform engineering on a daily basis rarely is there a call to repair something with such a demand for a quick turnaround. It was great to see everyone come together to achieve such a feat!

As we move through the summer, please remember that we currently have ballots for four council seats and ask that you please take a moment and complete the ballot if you have not already done so. Members who live or work in Delaware are eligible to vote - keep reading this newsletter for more information. We thank you for placing your vote if you have already. Lastly, we are always looking for additional volunteers to serve on our committees. If you have any interest please contact office@dape.org.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer! If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Executive

BY JENNIFER WOOTTEN

Director's Message

For me, each round of PE and Certificate of Authorization renewals is a lesson in communication. How can DAPE communicate our requirements better to help members stay in compliance? How can we encourage members to reach out to DAPE prior to renewal with questions? Often a conversation with an individual that has let their license lapse begins with "I didn't get your email." While that may be true, sometimes a more honest assessment could be "I didn't read your email."

DAPE does not share your email addresses or phone numbers. The more points of contact we have for you, the better able we are to reach out when there is an issue. To quote Jerry Maguire, "Help me help you!"

good refresher. The next iteration will include a #11, “Familiarize yourself with DAPE’s requirements to disclose disciplinary action in other jurisdictions.” For individuals and firms licensed in other jurisdictions, all of these tips won’t apply exactly from State to State, but it’s a good starting point to be sure you know each State’s requirements.

This document was the basis for our April 2023 Ethics Training. In addition to the approximately 200 members that attended this session in person (it was great to see so many of you!), 550 more members have watched the recording and received 2 PDHs in professional ethics.

DAPE truly wants our licensees to understand our law, keep their licenses in good standing, and know that DAPE staff is here to answer your questions. Read on for data shared by our Finance committee related to delinquency fee trends - an illustration of how DAPE is committed to better communication with our members!

DAPE Delinquency Fee Trends

DAPE’s Finance Committee meets at the beginning of each calendar year to analyze income and expense projections and prepare a proposed budget for Council approval. The budget is typically finalized at the April Council meeting, with the new fiscal year starting May 1.

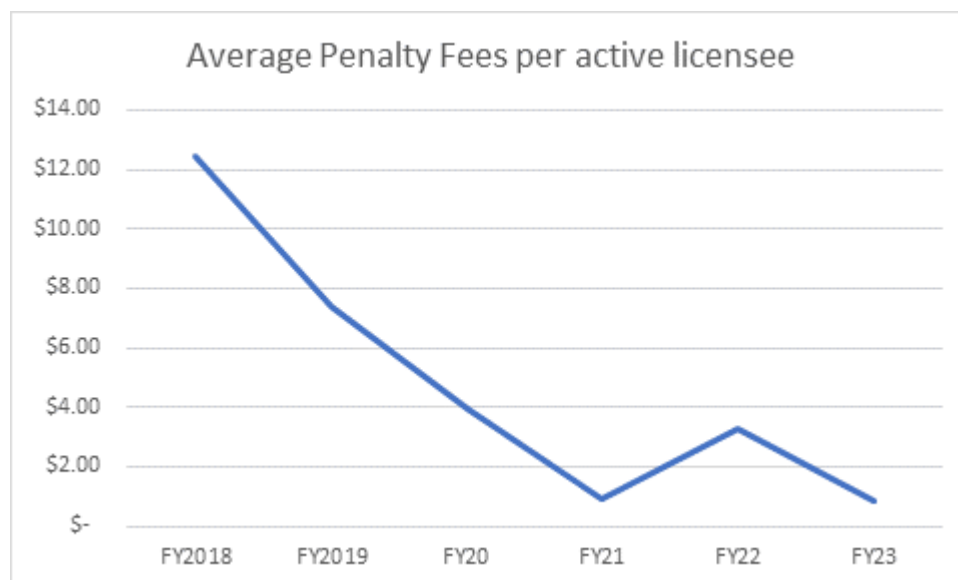
Firm licenses (Certificates of Authorization) are renewed annually, and individual PE licenses are renewed bi-annually. Although lapsed licenses are eligible for reinstatement for up to 2 years, DAPE sees a spike in late license renewals for the first few months after every renewal deadline. The Committee noticed that DAPE’s income from penalties was starting to approach the PE renewal income. DAPE prioritized finding ways to increase the number of on-time renewals, lowering income from penalties. It may seem counter-intuitive to actively decrease DAPE’s income, but our goal is to keep more licensees in compliance without any lapses.

Over the past two renewal cycles, DAPE has made several changes which have resulted in fewer delinquent licenses, including:

- Mailing postcards in addition to emailing renewal reminders.

- Reminding members that they have the option to switch to inactive status if they have not met their CPC requirements.
- Encouraging members to mark a personal calendar with the renewal deadline, rather than relying on emails (which often don't make it past junk mail filters).
- A USPS mailing and direct email follow up with delinquent licensees to alert them that they missed the renewal deadline.

Is this effort working? This chart shows the trends in average penalty fees per active licensee (individuals and firms combined) over time. As our active roster has increased 18%, our penalty fee income has decreased 92%.



2023 Council Election

The following seats are on the ballot for the 2023 Council election. Ballots were emailed to eligible voters on June 15. Only individual licensees that live or work in Delaware are eligible to vote. Please contact office@dape.org if you are eligible and did not receive a ballot.

- Kent County Seat (4-year term)
- Electrical Engineering Seat (4-year term)
- Private Consulting Seat (4-year term)
- Chemical Engineering Seat (2-year term, to complete current cycle)

Welcome to Delaware's Newest Professional Engineers

License Number	Name	License Number	Name
28125	Mohammed A. AlSaeefan	26584	Luar Raul Orriola-Cruz
24901	Bryan Patrick Ammermon	26131	Michael D. Pacyna
24778	Jordan James Banyas	24938	Michael Jacob Parrotta
28586	Mark David Billips	21884	Sanil N. Patel
25605	Sean Boston	27899	Brenden M. Peterson
27853	Michael R Brereton	27742	James D. Powell
28230	Anthony J. Dennis	27604	Daniel Joseph Ritter
27117	Joseph S. Esposito	22426	Viral Shah
23933	Wenjia Fan	28618	Austin Robert Spencer
24944	Evan M.H. Ferguson	28508	Alexander C. Steuerwald
21363	Varun K Kasaraneni	27389	Conor Surgeoner
27393	Shadab Mahmood	27721	Marili Tapia
27819	Marjan Martinovic	27391	Michael Taplin
28306	Mark R Odorizzi	25973	David B Wynn
28345	James O'Haire	22183	Adam M. Young
28199	Zachary G. O'Hara		

PE Night at the Wilmington Blue Rocks

DAPE had our first PE night at the Wilmington Blue Rocks last summer as part of our 50th Anniversary celebration. It was such a fun outing that we decided to make it an annual event. The May 10, 2023 event had 125 attendees. Thanks to a game that was rained out earlier in the season, we ended up with a double header to enjoy traditional baseball fare, and socializing with friends and family.

DAPE Council President Mike Clendaniel got to throw the first pitch to kick off game #2.



CPC Outreach Activities: STEM mentors/volunteers can claim up to 4 PDHs each year

Many DAPE members are involved with local STEM activities, mentoring the next generation of engineers in Delaware. While involvement with STEM programs is personally rewarding, this is a friendly reminder that you can claim up to 4 PDHs per year for your engineering outreach activities. Outreach activities are defined in the CPC Guidelines as “active participation in educational outreach activities pertaining to professional licensure or the surveying/engineering professions which involve K-12 or higher education students.”

In addition to ongoing visits to engineering students at the University of Delaware, DAPE representatives attended the MATHCOUNTS and DeIDOT Bridge Design Competition in early spring to help promote professional licensure, with outreach to both middle school and high school aged students. We’ve also heard from a volunteer with Delaware FIRST Tech Challenge that they are looking for volunteers, so here is more information about each program, if you are looking for some volunteer activities in your life:

[NSPE-DE supports the next generation of PEs through engagement in the MATHCOUNTS program.](#) Each March, middle school students from across our state come together for the Delaware MATHCOUNTS Competition, the only in-person math

prestigious honor of representing Delaware at the national level. Several DAPE members were on hand to help tally scores, and DAPE Executive Director Jen Wootten spoke to the students about DAPE, encouraging them to pursue engineering careers and PE licenses.

Delaware FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) is an organization dedicated to educating youth about the powers of STEM in a friendly competition setting. Teams (up to 15 team members, grades 7-12) are challenged to design, build, program, and operate robots to compete in a head-to-head challenge in an alliance format. Guided by adult coaches and mentors, students develop STEM skills and practice engineering principles.

Students that participate in an FTC team learn valuable skills such as leadership, teamwork, critical thinking, problem solving, and communication. Students also have the opportunity to develop workforce skills in a hands-on environment, access over \$80 million in scholarship opportunities, and find and grow their passion for STEM.

But FTC is not just for the students, it is an opportunity for the adults to interact with and train the next generation of engineers and scientists. And it is a way for engineers to fulfill their like long dream of building cool stuff and competing with other people building cool stuff. If this sounds like you, then consider volunteering with Delaware FTC. There are opportunities to mentor an existing team, start a new team, become a referee, and help judge at our local competitions. Prior knowledge of robot building is not required, we have training materials and workshops to get you up to speed. Anyone interested should check us out at DelawareFTC.org.

DeIDOT's Bridge Design Competition is a hands-on engineering competition aimed to engage students interested in the math, science, and engineering fields. The program is designed to encourage middle school and high school students to address real-world problems and inspire them to consider careers in transportation and civil engineering. Students use Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) and 3-D modeling software to design and detail plans for a truss bridge. Students use their design to create a balsa wood model. Participants develop a portfolio and PowerPoint presentation outlining their design. Their bridge models are tested on the day of the competition. The Delaware Bridge Design Competition and all associated software and materials are FREE to all participating students. [For more information visit DeIDOT's website.](#)

[form](#) to track your activities. Do you have a STEM activity you'd like to share in a future issue of DAPE's newsletter? Email jen@dape.org.

NCEES PAKS: PE Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering & PE Mining and Mineral Processing

NCEES is seeking naval architecture and marine engineers to participate in a professional activities and knowledge study (PAKS) for the PE Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering exam. The results of the survey will be used to update the content of the PE exam, a process that occurs every six to eight years.

The survey can be completed in 20–40 minutes and will be open until September 7, 2023.

[Click here for access to the online survey.](#)

Additionally, NCEES is currently seeking mining and/or mineral processing engineers to participate in a PAKS for the PE Mining and Mineral Processing exam.

The survey can be completed in 20–45 minutes and will be open until August 9, 2023.

[Click here for access to the online survey.](#)

Council Executive Committee

- Michael Clendaniel, P.E., President
- Karen Maxson, P.E., Vice President
- Vincent Fazio, P.E., Secretary
- Charles McAllister, Treasurer
- Joseph Jakubowski, P.E., LEED AP, Immediate Past President

- Vincent Fazio, P.E., Electrical Engineering (8/31/23)
- Ronald D. Smith, Esq., Kent Co. – Appointed (8/31/23)
- Nicholas Dean, P.E., Kent County (8/31/23)
- Michael Lennon, P.E., Chemical Engineering Seat (8/31/23)
- William Gamgort, Esq., New Castle Co. – Appointed (8/31/23)
- Charles L. McAllister, P.E., Private Consulting (8/31/23)
- Jason Hastings, P.E., Sussex County (8/31/24)
- David Reinhold, P.E., Education (8/31/24)
- Kenneth Tadler, P.E., Mechanical Engineering (8/31/24)
- Michael A. Clendaniel, P.E., Gov’t Employment (8/31/25)
- Jeremy Kalmbacher, P.E., “Other” Engineering (8/31/25)
- Daniel Barbato, P.E., New Castle County (8/31/26)
- Joseph Jakubowski, P.E., LEED AP, Civil Engineering (8/31/26)
- Chad R. Lingenfelder, Esq., Sussex Co. - Appointed (10/6/26)
- Karen Maxson, P.E., Industry (8/31/26)

DAPE Staff

- Jennifer Wootten, Executive Director
- Kathy Davis, Executive Assistant
- Beth Baughman, Administrative Assistant



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