Dear PSPE and Chapter Members,

As I alluded to in the last newsletter, we have a lot of new and exciting things planned for the year. And it starts with our September meeting!

I hope you notice the changes in the September meeting invitation. First, our speaker, Mike Howell, has an excellent presentation relevant to all engineers – *When Engineers Make Mistakes*. Regardless of our discipline or experience level, we’ve all made mistakes. Mike will review the common causes of engineering mistakes, how to turn a mistake into a success, and how to minimize mistakes from happening.

The next change is offering heavy appetizers in lieu of a formal dinner. This allows us to offer the meeting at a lower price, so cost is not the limiting factor in attendance. Also, by combining dinner with the social hour, our presentation can start earlier, which gets you home to your families earlier.

And the most exciting change involves my promise to reach out to the younger engineers. We have invited all the engineers in Allegheny County who have passed the Professional Engineering Exam in 2017/2018 to the September meeting. We will be recognizing them in a special presentation before our speaker starts. We hope you will join us in welcoming them to the Chapter.

Sincerely,

Keenan D. Sukits, PE
President 2018-2019
Pittsburgh Chapter - PSPE
The Pittsburgh Professional Engineer  
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**The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers**

Invites all current and prospective members as well as guests to the  
**Thursday, September 20, 2018, Meeting**

**Speaker:** Michael Howell, PE, SE, MBA, M.ASCE  
**FAILURE: When Engineers Make Mistakes**  
– Attendance qualifies as 1.0 PDH –  
At the Walnut Grill Fox Chapel  
911 Freeport Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

This session will look closely at the role mistakes can have for engineers. First, we will discuss why mistakes happen and our response to them once they do. Second, we will discuss some of the ways to create environments within our organizations and teams that are better suited to minimizing the frequency and the severity of our mistakes. Whether you are an entry-level engineer, a mid-level PE, or a senior executive, how we are prepared and how we respond are usually the only differences between our mistakes becoming either a success or a failure.

In addition to the presentation, we will be recognizing all of the new PEs in Allegheny County that became registered in 2017 and 2018. Please join us in welcoming them to our Chapter.

**Heavy Hors d’oeuvres in Lieu of Dinner**

- 6:00 pm  Hors d’oeuvres and Cash Bar
- 6:45 pm  Recognition of New PEs
- 7:00 pm  Presentation

**ONLINE REGISTRATION & PAYMENT AVAILABLE AT** [http://pittsburghpe.org/](http://pittsburghpe.org/)

**OR** you can make your reservation by completing the form below and mailing or faxing it to the Chapter office. Do not email your credit card info; FAX it. Payment may be made by calling in your credit card info, faxing this completed form, or mailing this form with credit card info or enclosing a check. See “Payment Options” below.

Name: _______________________________ Phone/Email: ________________________________

Name: _______________________________ Phone/Email: ________________________________

**Reservations, including payment, must be received by Noon on Tuesday, September 18, 2018.**

**Cost per attendee is $20.00 for PSPE members and all guests.**

**Payment Options:**

Credit Card: ___ MASTERCARD ___ VISA ____ AMEX

Card Number: ________________________________ Expiration Date: ________ CVV Code________

Name (as it appears on credit card): ___________________________________________________________

Billing Address: __________________________________________________________________________

___ Check enclosed payable to “Pittsburgh Chapter PSPE” & mailed to: Pittsburgh Chapter, PSPE  
337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Phone: 412.261.4300  Fax 412.261.1606  Email: d.teorsky@eswp.com

_Cancellations must be received three (3) days prior to the event._
Reyman R. Branting, PE

December 14, 1929 – August 20, 2018

The PSPE extends our deepest sympathies to the family of Reyman Branting, a very active, long-standing member. The following obituary is from the Schellhaas Funeral Home site. PSPE has made a donation in Reyman’s name to his favorite charity.

Reyman R. Branting, born in Omaha, Nebraska, passed away on Monday, August 20, 2018. Bauxite, Arkansas, was his boyhood home. He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, with a degree in Civil Engineering. He was the beloved husband for 62 years of the late Despina Eugene.

At RPI, Reyman and a few friends founded the Kappa Tau fraternity (now Pi Lambda Phi). Upon graduation, he served in the US Army Corps of Engineers during the Korean War.

Reyman worked as a professional engineer for over 25 years with ALCOA, Graver, and PBI and then became a Certified Financial Planner and Broker with AG Edwards. He was very active in the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers. He served as its president, founded and led the Pittsburgh’s Engineer Apprenticeship program for high school students, worked effortlessly with the Math Counts competition, and won the PSPE service award three times.

Reyman enjoyed owning and working on 1950’s cars, participating in the kit car club with his self-built Bernardi, and riding his motorcycle.

He was an active member of the McKnight United Methodist church for over 50 years. Reyman served on the Finance Committee and was a frequent Greeter.

Reyman loved to travel the world with his cherished wife, Despina. They especially liked to visit the Southwestern United States and take European River Cruises.

He is survived by sisters Virginia Branting and Dorothy Buffum, daughters Katrina Branting (Joe) and Krisoula Faller (David), granddaughter Alexis Faller, and grandsons Matthew Faller and Joseph Martina. He was preceded in death by brother, Leland Branting, and parents, Luther and Louise Branting.

Visitation was Saturday, August 25, 2018, at Schellhaas Funeral Home in West View followed by a memorial service at McKnight United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to ALDEA clinic in Guatemala at: https://aldeaguatemala.org/donations

A tribute by PSPE follows.
PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter Pays Tribute to Reyman Branting, PE

By David Briskey, PE . . . If the Pittsburgh Chapter of PSPE had a Hall of Fame, Reyman Branting, PE (1929-2018) would head the list! His stats are indisputable! He served as Chapter President in 1995-96 and was Financial Secretary for multiple decades. He was awarded the Gold Star by TWO Chapter Presidents for his outstanding support (2003 and 2011). He was recognized for his Dedicated Service in 1999 and 2018, which acknowledged his continuous years of active participation in the chapter. Most impressive, he was a two-time winner of the Lawrence W. Hornfeck Award (1988 and 2009) for his exceptional contributions to the Chapter (see 2009 photo). Reyman also received the Distinguished Service Award (2005) for his outstanding contributions toward the improvement of the social, economic, and professional status of the Professional Engineer. He joined a select group of only four professional engineers who have won both of these prestigious awards!

However, anyone who ever met Reyman knows the justification is beyond simple awards. Members who learned how to make engineering presentations with confidence due to their time at Toast Masters could thank Reyman for co-founding the Pittsburgh chapter’s club of Toast Masters International. Any member who shared a table during an Engineers’ Week Banquet with Reyman and his lovely wife, Dusty, always came away with additional knowledge about engineering, as well as old cars, motorcycles, travel experiences, and life in general. Volunteers for MATHCOUNTS got to know him as a fellow Grader, Proctor, or simply as the Photographer who documented it all. Chapter Board Members trusted him for his continuous service as the Financial Secretary and for his wisdom during discussion on issues affecting the Chapter and professional engineers.

Reyman’s greatest impact may have been on everyone involved with the Engineering Apprenticeship program. Engineers and non-engineers spent many hours of pleasant discussion with Reyman as they arranged company visits and then talked with him as he accompanied the students. Members of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, who annually arranged the students for the program and coordinated notification of the students with Reyman, speak highly of his dedication and professionalism. Most important, are the approximately 1,200 students who went through the program while Reyman was involved. Many of them used Reyman’s guidance as they selected their career path. He truly made the Chapter proud by being such an honorable and professional face of the engineering profession.

Everyone at the Chapter, and many outside of the Chapter, will greatly miss Reyman Branting, PE!
Have you registered yet for the PSPE 2018 Conference to be held in Johnstown September 12-15? If not, what are you waiting for?

The PSPE 2018 Conference will be held in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, September 12-15, at the Holiday Inn – Downtown Johnstown. The conference planning committee created a unique agenda of sessions click here to view agenda and to register.

The Pennsylvania Professional Engineers Conference, hosted by the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, brings licensed engineers together in one location, to meet face-to-face with colleagues. Professional Engineers from Pennsylvania, the northeast region, and around the country collaborate on solutions to shared challenges. Consultants and specialists build networks of engineers from multiple disciplines.

Licensed engineers on the planning committee are building an agenda of cross-disciplinary sessions that will provide an overview on a variety of projects. While not every subject will apply to your practice specifically, when the situation comes up you now have a reference point.

- Meet here with colleagues who face the same challenges you do.
- Select from 33 multi-disciplinary, peer-reviewed sessions (Earn up to 12 PDH).
- Make connections with specialists in various engineering disciplines.

We look forward to seeing you!

October 25 Dinner Meeting and ALCOSAN Presentation

Update on ALCOSAN’s Wet Weather Plan with Speakers Kim Kennedy from ALCOSAN and Alex Sciulli from ALEM Consulting, LLC.
As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, the Chapter was saddened by the loss of Reyman Branting, PE. He has been involved with the Apprenticeship Program since it began in the 1980s. For the past 10 years, Dave Briskey, PE, has co-hosted this program with Reyman and will continue to do so. The Chapter is looking for members who enjoy sharing their engineering experience with high school students while knowing this may guide a young person on their future career. The Apprenticeship program’s goal is to expose students to typical engineers and the types of work they perform on a daily basis. Students are always asked at the end of the year whether they are more likely, or less likely, to become an engineer! So it’s up to our members along with many local engineering companies who volunteer their time and resources to make a good impression of our profession.

What is the program and how can you help? The Allegheny Intermediate Unit works with all Allegheny County High Schools to assemble a group of approximately 40 sophomores, juniors, and seniors. These students are assembled into five regional groups based on their high school’s location. We gather with the entire group for Orientation in early September at the AIU Building at 475 E Waterfront Drive, Homestead. This year, the meeting will be Tuesday, September 11, 2018. It will begin at 9:00 am when the Chapter volunteers welcome the students and describe their personal engineering experiences. Students then perform several exercises. They get to demonstrate their communication skills by introducing another student and explaining their choice between two randomly assigned professions ranging from Lion Tamer to Yoga Instructor. The goal is to help students understand how their personal interests can be used for selecting a satisfying career. The University of Pittsburgh Engineering Department brings several students who talk about their college experiences. The types of engineering and possible careers are also reviewed. Last, the five groups compete on building a bridge with spaghetti and gum drops to support an increasing weight. The winner gets to be first in line for pizza! The conversation with students while sharing pizza is always a highlight of the year.

For the five months following Orientation, the groups visit various engineering companies who get to interact with students and talk about their product or service. It’s a fantastic chance for these companies to make an impression on students who may be pursuing an engineering career. It also energizes the employees who spend time with the students as they explain their profession and responsibilities.

At the end of the school year, all students gather together at the Pittsburgh Engineers’ Club on Fourth Avenue. Students get a chance to review the year and state what they liked or disliked about the program and the engineering profession. The students also identify the most interesting person they met during their visits. This is one honor that can give you bragging rights for years to come at your company! The day ends with each group explaining their engineering concepts used while using a catapult to deliver various widgets to different bins or protecting an egg during a drop from increasing heights. Following lunch, the students are provided a certificate of completion for the Engineering Apprenticeship Program.

If you are interested in getting involved as a volunteer or host company, please contact Dave Briskey at DavidBriskey@Hillintl.com. You will not regret getting involved!
Current Review Courses

PSPE EIT/FE Review Course
Attendees consist of 3 Civil Engineers and 2 Mining Engineers.
Instructor is Steven Musial II, PE.

Civil PE Review Course
Instructor is Chris Volk, PE, SE.

Exciting changes are coming to MATHCOUNTS!
REQUEST FOR SUSTAINING ASSOCIATES
Pay your 2018 Dues and
Become a Sustaining Associate Now

Becoming a Sustaining Associate in the Pittsburgh Chapter of PSPE provides tools to accomplish corporate objectives and more. Through the financial support of our Chapter Sustaining Associates, the Chapter is able to continue to provide many services to the Pittsburgh engineering community as well as sponsor excellent outreach programs to the students in our area. It is imperative in today’s world to get and keep students interested in the science- and engineering-related fields in middle schools and high schools. Our outreach programs include the Engineering Apprenticeship Program, the Mathcounts Program, and participation in several activities at the Carnegie Science Center during National Engineers’ week.

The Pittsburgh Chapter is proud to offer the following advantages and benefits of becoming a Sustaining Associate in the Pittsburgh Chapter.

**SUSTAINING ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGES**

- Member firms may provide an article for the newsletter highlighting their firm’s projects, individual accomplishments, services, products, or technical capabilities. The newsletter circulation reaches 300+ engineers, managers, and company officials and is published on the Chapter website.
- Member firms may advertise positions available within their firm in the newsletter and on the website free-of-charge.
- Member firms may be listed on the Pittsburgh Chapter, PSPE’s Internet Website, free-of-charge. A link to the company’s website can be included.
- Member firms that employ personnel preparing for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) and Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Examinations are entitled to a 20% discount on the Chapter’s review courses for the exams.
- Representative(s) of member firms are permitted to attend regular Chapter Business Meetings and are invited to the Chapter Meetings. Our Chapter presently offers a minimum of four (4) meetings with one (1) qualified PDH for continuing education requirements to maintain a Pennsylvania PE license.
- Member firms are recognized as Sustaining Associates in our PSPE Newsletters and at the Annual Engineers’ Week Banquet held each February.

The following are the Sustaining Associates who are paid up through December 2018:

- D&D Engineering
- The Gateway Engineers, Inc.
- HDR Engineering, Inc.
- Keystone Consultants, Inc.
- SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc.
- Stantec Architecture and Engineering LLC
- Trumbull Corporation

To become a Sustaining Associate, please complete and return the “Application for Sustaining Associate Membership” on the next page.

**TO PAY YOUR 2018 DUES,** please mail a check for $350 payable to “PSPE Pittsburgh Chapter” to PSPE, Pittsburgh Chapter, 337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.
Application for Sustaining Associate Membership in
The Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers - Pittsburgh Chapter

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Signature ____________________ Date ____________________

THANK YOU!

Please enclose check for $350, payable to “PSPE, Pittsburgh Chapter.”
Please print, complete, and return form and check to:
Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, Pittsburgh Chapter
337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Questions: Call 412.261.4300 or email us at PSPE@PittsburghPE.Org
MEMBERSHIP EVENTS & MEETINGS

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<tr>
<td>September 12-15, 2018</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>PSPE 2018 State Conference</td>
<td>Holiday Inn – Johnstown, PA</td>
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<td>September 20, 2018</td>
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<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>Walnut Grill, Fox Chapel</td>
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<td>October 25, 2018</td>
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<td>February 23, 2019</td>
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<td>National Engineers’ Week Banquet</td>
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2018-2019 Chapter Officers

- President – Keenan Sukits, PE
- President-Elect – Ed Telega, PE
- Vice President – Melissa M. Fontanese, PE
- Executive Secretary – Brian Schull, PE
- Treasurer – Justin Kramm, PE
- Financial Secretary – Vacant
- Immediate Past President – Scott P. Sukits, PE

2016–2020 Chapter Directors

- Angela Mayer, EIT – 2019-2021
- Brian Krul, PE – 2018-2020
- Matthew Kusic, PE – 2017-2019

Chapter Committee Chairs

- Refresher Course – Matthew Kusic, PE
- Young Members – Jason Esser, PE
- Newsletter – James Lombardi, PE
- Apprenticeship – Dave Briskey, PE
- Website Coordinator – Jason Esser, PE
- Future Website Coordinator – Angela Mayer, EIT
- Mathcounts Coordinator – Virginia Dailey, PE
- Future Mathcounts Coordinators – Keenan Sukits, PE, and Kevin Ferry, PE, PTOE

State Officers

- State Secretary – David Briskey, PE
- State Director – Kirk Thompson, PE