



# The Drawingboard

## Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

January 2010

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### In This Issue

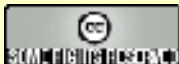
- President's Message
- Meeting Information
- Mathcounts
- Professional Services Directory
- Sponsors
- Legal Fund

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### President's Message

*By Chris Petallides, P.E.  
President*



Welcome to year 2010. On behalf of the Queens Chapter (QC) directors, I wish you and yours a HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

The Board of Directors (the Board) met on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to review activities of the year that just past and set priorities for the year ahead. Not surprising, we determined that the number of battle fronts being fought in the recent past not only need to be continued in 2010 but some new ones have emerged as well. Two areas of neglect emerged as areas in need of improvement; one, a better working relationship with our cousins, the architects in presenting our common interests to the NYC Department of Buildings (DOB), and two, we need to become more politically involved in presenting our cause to the public.

For this reason, we all need to recommit ourselves to continuing our struggle to gain the respect and recognition due our profession. We will share the thoughts of the Board with the membership at our next general meeting and we will seek your input on the methodology to put these thoughts into motion. We are convinced that now, more than ever, we need unity in presenting our case to the DOB and our cause to the world, if we are to prevail and be successful.

To this end, we are happy to report that as a result of efforts by QC 1<sup>st</sup> VP **George Tavoulaareas**, PE, and former QC president and current Professional Design Center (PDC) chair, **Bob LoPinto**, PE, we are scheduled to meet with a Queens AIA delegation and current Queens AIA president, Ms. **Laura Heim**, RA, on Tuesday,

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(President's Message Continued)

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010, in an effort to reinstate the PE/RA partnership, which is the main ingredient inherent in the PDC. In addition, it was decided to start inviting the newly elected area councilman, Hon. **Dan Halloran** (R) and other elected officials to meet our group, and also, invite the newly elected City Comptroller, Hon. **John Liu** (D) to help us present the Mathcounts trophies and other prizes to the Mathcounts winners on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Speaking of Mathcounts, please see the Mathcounts announcement elsewhere in this issue of the Drawingboard and arrange to make yourselves available Saturday morning, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to help chairman, Bob LoPinto, PE, by proctoring and/or scoring papers (you will be given the answers on a jip-sheet; don't worry). You will meet the brightest 7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> graders and possibly future PE's in Queens. It's a rewarding experience.

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Our next general meeting, the first of the year 2010, is scheduled for Thurs., January 28, 2010, 6:30PM at Fort Totten. Come; collect your new 2010 pocket Agenda Book, courtesy of the Chapter and QC immediate past president, **Brian Flynn**, PE.

Dinner will be served, followed by the meeting & 1PDH lecture by our Sponsor.

Looking forward to seeing all of you again!

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## Upcoming Meeting Information

### Our Next Chapter Meeting

Date: **Thursday January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – 6:30 PM**

Sponsor: To Be Announced

Presenter:

Subject:

Location:

**422 Weaver Ave., Fort Totten, New York**



## Mathcounts

The QUEENS MATHCOUNTS Competition will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 8:30 A.M. at JHS 189, Flushing, Queens. **VOLUNTEERS are needed** for the competition. The Competition will feature around 11 teams of 6th thru 8th graders competing in written and oral tests.

### REGISTRATION:

Registration will begin no sooner than 8:15 AM. All schools are scheduled to arrive before 8:45 AM to register their students.

### JHS 189 LOCATION:

JHS 189 is located in Flushing. The Address is 144-80 Barclay Avenue. The Main Entrance is located on 147th Street, between Sanford Avenue and Barclay Avenue. 147th Street is One Way North, from Sanford to Barclay Avenues. There is also a school yard that is used for parking. It is located on Sanford Avenue, West of 147th Street. There is a Curb at the entry gates, so you can drive in. There is an entrance from the parking lot to the school.

JHS 189 is in Flushing, North of the Long Island Expressway, South of Northern Blvd, East of Main Street and West of 150th Street. .

### SCHEDULE:

It is estimated that the competition and awards ceremony will end by 1:00 PM. There will be a short break after the Team competition-before the Countdown round competition. We will provide some refreshments. You can bring refreshments of your own - BUT limit the amount to a small size, as we have limited space.

If there are any questions, call Bob LoPinto, PE during the day at 516-791-2300. He can also be reached on his Cell Phone at 516-816-3800.

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## Job Opening

### Solid Waste Engineer:

A large national engineering company is looking for a Solid Waste Engineer on a part time or full time basis to service their NYC Garbage Transfer Station Clients. If interested, contact Bob LoPinto at 516-791-2300.

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# QUEENS COUNTY CHAPTER

OF

THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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November 20, 2008

Dear Colleague,

The Queens Chapter – NYSSPE is soliciting contributions from Engineers and Architects in the NY area to help fund a lawsuit by the NY State Society of Professional Engineers (NYSSPE) against the City of New York. As you probably already know, the NY City Council recently passed a law changing the City Charter, at the insistence of Mayor Bloomberg, which removed the licensure requirement from the Commissioner of the Department of Buildings. The new law now states that the Buildings Commissioner need not be licensed. Presently, an unlicensed lay person is Buildings Commissioner.

The Queens Chapter is leading the fight in the NY Metropolitan area AGAINST the Mayor's irresponsible actions which endanger the public's health, safety and welfare while undermining and diminishing both the Engineering and Architectural professions.

The Queens Chapter leadership is asking all Engineers and Architects to contribute to a legal fund which will support the NYSSPE legal suit against the City of New York. Please make whatever contribution is within your means.

It's about time we stand up for our Profession and the people of New York!

Suggested contributions:

\$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 750 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: "Queens Chapter – NYSSPE"      Memo: "Legal Fund"

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