

## Professional Development Seminars

In an effort to support the development and professional growth of our members, and as a service to the engineering community at large, the Delaware Engineering Society is pleased to offer a "Professional Development Series" of seminars.

In May 2006, we kicked off the program with a luncheon seminar on stress in the workplace presented by Mark Gorkin, the "Stress-Doc." In September 2006, a seminar was offered by the national speaker Lenny Laskowski titled "Re-Engineering the Engineer's Presentation." Those in attendance learned lots of tips on how to improve technical presentation skills.

Our next seminar, titled "Time Strategies for Effective Managers and Leaders", is scheduled for January 30, 2007. See the insert in this newsletter for more information.

Topics that will be covered in upcoming seminars may include:

- Management Skills for Engineers;
- Keys to holding successful meetings; and
- Marketing your Professional Services.

If you have any suggestions for other topics, or would like more information, please contact Stacy Ziegler at [sziegler@duffnet.com](mailto:sziegler@duffnet.com).

## Upcoming Events

DES is planning a lot of activities in the coming months! Following is a list of upcoming events... watch the website and future newsletters for more details!

- December 21, 2006 – Scholarship Committee Meeting  
(volunteers needed!)
- January 30, 2007 – Professional Development Series Seminar  
*"Time Strategies for Effective Managers and Leaders"*
- February 20 - 23, 2007 – Engineer's Week Activities
- March 2007 – Professional Development Series Seminar  
Management Skills
- April 2007 – Golf Tournament – Fundraiser for Scholarship Program



## MATHCOUNTS Program

MATHCOUNTS® is a national enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement through grassroots involvement in every U.S. state and territory. The Delaware Engineering Society supports the MATHCOUNTS program in Delaware each year with financial support and with volunteers to assist with coordination of the various schools, and administration of the State MATHCOUNTS Competition every March. The winning team and individuals from the Delaware State Competition will then attend the grand finale - the Lockheed Martin MATHCOUNTS National Competition in Fort Worth, May 10 - 13, 2007.

### *The Falling Leaves*

Following is a sample middle school MATHCOUNTS problem ... can you do it? (Just in case you need it, the solution to this Problem of the Week will be available on in the Problem of the Week Archive at [www.Mathcounts.org](http://www.Mathcounts.org))

*It is fall and the leaves are falling from the trees. The number of leaves that fall each day from a certain tree can be modeled by the function  $f(x) = 7^x$  where  $x$  is the number of consecutive days that leaves have fallen from the tree. The day the first leaf falls from the tree  $x = 1$ . If the tree has 1,000,000 leaves, and the first leaf falls from the tree on October 29, what is the date when the last leaf falls from the tree?*

### **Get Involved!**

DES is looking for volunteers to assist with the 2007 MATHCOUNTS program. Please contact Stacy Ziegler at [sziegler@duffnet.com](mailto:sziegler@duffnet.com) if you are interested in finding out more. If you or your firm would like to support a middle school team with funds and/or with mentoring support, please let us know!

## News From National

By Mark Parker – Delegate

Well, for those of you who haven't heard from me in a while, there have been some really significant changes at the national level that affect those of us on the local level every day. These changes were brought on by a desire to go to a state-centric approach to NSPE as the leadership began to feel that the old structure was a bit too cumbersome. I want to discuss one small part of the governance change that has a huge effect on small state like Delaware.

The new leadership is dedicated to bringing back the strength of each state as the focus of creating a stronger NSPE. In that vein, the leadership, under the direction of the Future Directions Task Force, created the House of Delegates. This governance board consists of 69 votes, one (1) from each state and also one (1) each from Washington, D.C., Guam, and Puerto Rico and a maximum of 16 votes from the Board of Directors. During some voting procedures, states receive additional votes based upon their total membership. As a point of interest, Delaware does not qualify for any additional votes. We would require almost 300 more members to reach the first plateau!

In the past, DES' strength has been in our ability to put forth resolutions on topics that we have felt very strongly about. Our state leadership is well known and respected at the national level and we tend to get a lot of good things done. We have introduced and supported initiatives that have had far reaching importance to NSPE while also having an immediate impact here in our own state. We will continue those types of efforts but now the House of Delegates also gives us a little more voting power in addition to our strong voice within NSPE.

At the past Annual Meeting in Boston, I was able to cast our vote as the Delaware Delegate on topics and elections that in the past we had only some lobbying opportunity prior to any actual vote or decision. In Boston, the DES cast a vote on several important resolutions and elections, including the President-Elect. Times are changing at the national level, and we're getting a bigger voice. As your Delegate, I carry Delaware's voice forward for the rest of NSPE to hear. Please let me know what concerns or compliments you may have.

I am your voice and will be happy to speak out on behalf of DES!

For up-to-date  
information on  
DES activities and  
news

VISIT THE  
DES WEBSITE  
AT:

[www.DESONLINE.us](http://www.DESONLINE.us)

## Interesting Links

- Taking a trip? Visit the NSPE website at [www.NSPE.org](http://www.NSPE.org) and click on "A Sightseer's Guide to Engineering" to learn about places throughout the US that showcase creative engineering marvels.

- Explore a list of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's greatest engineering achievements, and learn how engineering shaped a century and changed the world, at [www.greatachievements.org](http://www.greatachievements.org).

## Helping Students Pursue Engineering Degrees

DES needs your help with encouraging bright students to pursue an education and career in engineering.

The **DES Scholarship Committee** is looking forward to another year of administering scholarships to deserving high school seniors who plan to pursue degrees in the field of engineering. As in past years, we anticipate being involved in the support and administration of several scholarships provided by the local and national engineering community, including DES, SWE, and the University of Delaware. The scholarship application is available on-line at [www.desonline.us](http://www.desonline.us). Applications are due by December 14, 2006.

The Scholarship Committee is looking for several volunteers to assist with the program this year. The time commitment is small (with most assistance needed during the winter months), and the outcome is rewarding. If you are interested in being involved with this year's program, or know a student interested in available scholarships, please contact Stacy Ziegler, P.E. at (302) 239-6634 or [sziegler@duffnet.com](mailto:sziegler@duffnet.com).

## NSPE Student Chapter at the University of Delaware

The NSPE Student Chapter at the University of Delaware is planning an active year. Potential upcoming events include the following:

- Tours of Industrial Plants or Construction Sites
- Events during National Engineer's Week, including Mock Interviews, Job Shadowing and the Order of the Engineer Ring Ceremony
- Charity and Social Events

The Delaware Engineering Society supports these activities and encourages our members to participate in activities with members of the NSPE Student Chapter. For more information on these upcoming events, watch the website at [www.desonline.us](http://www.desonline.us), or contact the NSPE Student Chapter President, Joseph Challburg at [shmoejoe@udel.edu](mailto:shmoejoe@udel.edu).

*Professional Development Series - Sponsored by the Delaware Engineering Society*

## **“Time Strategies for Effective Leaders”**

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007 11:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Christiana Hilton, 100 Continental Drive, Newark, Delaware*

This seminar focuses on understanding our perception of time and developing a Time-Conscious Attitude. Invest your time creating successful time habits and mastering Time Management techniques. Get ORGANIZED!

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This seminar will be led by Financial Synergies Management, Inc. (FSMI). FSMI assists individuals and organizations to improve results and reach new levels of performance. They assist a wide range of clients, from sole proprietors to Fortune 100 companies, to achieve improved results through Strategic Business Planning, Organization Development, and Coaching.

**Timothy Walsh** founded FSMI in an effort to guide organizations and individuals to maximize their potential. He is goal driven and supports clients to take control of their lives to improve professional and personal results.

Tim has achieved leadership positions in finance, information technology, and sales over his twenty-two year career. He has served such diverse posts as Chief Financial Officer, IT Director, and Plant Controller at several Fortune 500 companies such as Masco, PPG Industries, Bristol-Myers, and Westinghouse. Tim has extensive experience in business process reengineering, activity based costing, IT project management, and has been successful at profitability management throughout his career. See more information on this speaker at [www.fsmi.com](http://www.fsmi.com).

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Ticket price (includes: seminar, materials, and lunch):

DES members = \$35.00

Non-DES members = \$50.00

Student = \$20.00

For more information or to reserve tickets contact

Stacy Ziegler at 302-239-6634, [sziegler@duffnet.com](mailto:sziegler@duffnet.com).

*Please respond no later than Wednesday, January 24, 2007*



# **Delaware Engineering Society**

*A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers*

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***PLEASE FEEL FREE  
TO CONTACT US WITH  
QUESTIONS,  
SUGGESTIONS, OR  
COMMENTS***