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## President's Message

David Webber, PE

ASPE is the only organization whose sole goal is to protect the interests of professional engineers. As officers of ASPE, protecting the interests of PE's in the State of Alabama and protecting the interests of our members are our primary objectives. We are committed to assuring that your ASPE membership dues are used on resources that benefit the profession of engineering. For \$75 in membership fees, ASPE has provided the following services this past year:

1. Continuing education at minimal or no cost.
2. 4 hours of ethics training for \$5/hour and a statewide promotion assuring that ethics remains a high priority for all engineers.
3. Free lunches for all engineers taking the PE test in April and October.
4. Representation on the Board of Licensure nominating committee assuring that qualified candidates are placed on the Board of Licensure.
5. Political representation and membership to JECA to track legislation affecting engineers. Specifically bills for the good Samaritan law and statute of repose.
6. ASPE provides several proctors for the NCEES in administering the PE examination.
7. Continued support of Mathcounts.

I encourage all members to get the most out of membership by volunteering for one of our many activities. We have a good buzz about ASPE from our Ethics Day and from our supplying PE lunches, we need to continue this momentum and strive to support all professional engineers in the State of Alabama.

### ALSO.....

The Alabama Board of Licensure is currently reviewing their current configuration to determine if the board makeup should be changed. ASPE is working with the Board along with other technical organizations in studying the Board configuration. This is an extremely important subject for all professional engineer's in Alabama. A meeting is being held on March 1 with the Board of Licensure. Buzz Vance will represent ASPE interests at the meeting. The Board has requested that each society supply one delegate to the meeting. Several ASPE members are working with Buzz to develop our society's response to the Board's request for ideas.

## ASPE Sustaining Partners

### Platinum Level (\$2000)

B E & K, Inc,  
Birmingham

UAB School of Engineering,  
Birmingham

Prism Systems, Inc., Mobile

Alabama Power Company,  
Birmingham

Volkert & Associates,  
Mobile

### Gold Level (\$1500)

### Silver Level (\$1000)

### Bronze Level (\$500)

Connie Gipson, PE, Huntsville  
Tennessee Valley Authority,  
Muscle Shoals

### Supporter Level (\$250)

**Contributor Level (\$100)**  
Williamson's Inc.  
Engineering, Survey &  
Construction Supply Company  
Crane Hill, AL

**If your company would like to partner with us, please contact our Executive Director at 205-934-8470.**

## Upcoming Meeting Information

- **The ASPE Annual Summer Meeting will be held July 21-22, 2006** at the Embassy Suites hotel in Montgomery. All ASPE members and guests are invited to attend. The business meeting begins on Saturday morning, followed by the Awards and Installation Luncheon. The meeting resumes at 1:30pm and ends at 5:00. Two one-hour seminars will be offered during the afternoon portion of the meeting, yielding 2 pdh's for the attendee. The members of the State Licensing Board will be invited to attend. Overnight accommodation can be reserved by calling The Embassy Suites Hotel at 1-334-269-5055; reference ASPE to receive the special room rate of \$119/night (double) + tax. Room block ends on June 21, 2006. Registration forms will be posted soon on the ASPE website: <http://www.aspe-al.com/>
- **ENGINEER'S WEEK Feb 19-25, 2006**
- **State Mathcounts Competition March 11, 2006**  
Faulkner University Montgomery starts at 8am [Volunteers needed!](#)
- **Upcoming ASPE Board of Directors scheduled meetings:**  
Feb 10 (conf call 11:30am)  
April 14 (conf call 11:30am)  
July 22 (Annual Meeting in Montgomery)

## MATHCOUNTS Update

The Montgomery Chapter of ASPE is hosting this year's statewide Mathcounts Competition. It will be held on Saturday, March 11th In Montgomery at Faulkner University in the Harris Business Bldg. Registration will start at 8am. We need at least 25 volunteers for various duties. Some of the jobs needed are:

Graders Proctors Registration Table General Help

Proctors and graders are the positions we currently need the most help with. If you want to volunteer, please contact me. I currently have 6 volunteers committed:

Courtney Norris	Tom Nabors
Mark Dagostin	Danny Holmberg
David Webber	Kevin Blake

Thanks!

Brian A Shelton PE 334-206-3476 <mailto:bshelton@mwwssb.com>

## Chapter Updates

### Birmingham

Over 100 engineers in the Birmingham and Tuscaloosa areas took advantage of the Ethics Day seminar offered on October 21<sup>st</sup>. On October 28<sup>th</sup>, the Birmingham Chapter provided 175 lunches to those taking the PE Exam. Our local MATHCOUNTS competition is scheduled for Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at Berry Middle School. The

Engineering Council of Birmingham will hold its annual awards banquet on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at The Club Atop Red Mountain. We will provide lunches for the PE Exam in April. Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at UAB (see website for further details). Plans for the end of the year banquet to be held in May will be forthcoming.

### **Huntsville-Decatur Chapter News**

2005 Engineering Ethics Day: Held on 21 October 2005, we had approximately 30 professional engineers in attendance locally. Proceeds went to the Huntsville Engineering Foundation, which funds our local MATHCOUNTS expenses. Thank you to CSC for allowing us to use their conference room and computer and internet connections for the day! One of the speakers, Mr. Dan Spiegelberg, P.E., of Earth Tech, broadcast his part of the web-based seminar from this location. We received good feedback from the attendees, with the number one attendee response: Thank you - When will you do something like this again?

January Chapter meeting: The Huntsville/Decatur Chapter met on 18 January 2006 at Green Hills Grille in Huntsville. Speaker was from Engineers Without Borders, which is starting a Huntsville Chapter. The presentation was on a rural medical facility being built in Kenya, and the water requirements the Engineers wish to help with.

Regional MATHCOUNTS: Huntsville/Decatur Regional MATHCOUNTS will be held on 18 February 2006 at Challenger Middle School in Huntsville. Seven (7) schools have registered with a total of 58 students (team and individuals).

MC Coordinator Dr. Walter Hammond, P.E., of NASA is working on volunteer coordination and last minute arrangements for lunch and T-shirts for the participants.

### **Mobile**

Local Mathcounts Competition is scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup> at the University of South Alabama Engineering Building. Mobile Area Council of Engineers awards banquet will be held February 24<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Engineer's Week. We continue to meet at Hank Aaron Stadium on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month (although March meeting will be moved back a week for Mardi Gras).

### **Muscle Shoals**

Muscle Shoals chapter officers participated in the Florence Middle School Career Fair on 2-3-06. An infrared camera was used as an attention grabber, and several dozen middle-school students were given information about engineering career opportunities. The Muscle Shoals chapter will host its MathCounts competition on Saturday 2-25-06 at Stevens Hall on the UNA campus in Florence.

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## **State Legislative News**

Last week, the Good Samaritan Bill for our industry (House Bill 68) passed the House of Representatives with a bill amendment. The amendment would provide civil immunity for public utility workers that render emergency aid in during a state of emergency. The Senate version of this bill (SB 319) is before the Alabama State Senate. The bill is in line for debate and a vote on the Senate Calendar. We will continue to keep you posted on the status of this proposed legislation. Please call the Joint Engineers Council of Alabama (JECA) if you have any questions---334-264-1500.

Contact your legislator and urge him/her to support this Bill! (To find the name and contact info, click here: <http://www.legislature.state.al.us/misc/zipsearch.html>)

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Education Opportunities  
from the NSPE July 2006  
Annual Meeting

[NSPE PEC Seminars](#)

[Developing Trust and  
Commitment in Project  
Teams](#)

[Dispute Avoidance and  
Resolution](#)

[Process Safety  
Management](#)

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## NSPE Has a New Legislative Action Center

NSPE has launched its new Legislative Action Center, which encourages political participation by connecting NSPE members to their elected officials. This grassroots Web site will allow members to educate themselves on salient legislative issues and to take action by contacting their elected officials. The Web site can be accessed through [Government Relations](#). State-specific grassroots Web sites administered by each state society are now available---

### Update: State Legislative Weekly

Updated 2/10/06

<http://www.nspe.org/govrel/StateLegislativeUpdate.asp>

In This Issue

- \* Alabama Good Samaritan Legislation Passes House
- \* Colorado House Bill to Increase Penalties for Unauthorized Practice
- \* Idaho House Bill Amends Requirements for Licensure
- \* Louisiana House Bill Allows Design-Build Contracts for Hurricane Protection and Flood Control Projects
- \* Legislation Passed by the Mississippi Senate Would Protect Professional Licenses of Military Personnel
- \* Missouri Legislation Provides for Environmental Professional Registration

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## NSPE Restructuring Plan Approved

NSPE members have overwhelmingly approved constitutional amendments designed to allow the Society to carry out a strategic restructuring plan that was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors in July.

The new NSPE Vision statement: "NSPE is the recognized voice and advocate of licensed Professional Engineers." The new NSPE Mission states NSPE will focus its resources on education, licensure advocacy (protecting the PE license and the PE's rights and status under the law), leadership training, multi-disciplinary networking, and community/student outreach. The goal is to enhance the image of NSPE members and their ability to ethically and professionally practice engineering.

## Member Prizes For Participation In The Salary Survey!

As you know, the salary survey is constantly updated as participants submit their data. But there is also a print version of the results (which is provided to corporate subscribers) - the **deadline for inclusion in it is April 1st!** In order to get as many participants as possible - we'll be doing a drawing for an iPod Nano, and gift certificates to Barnes & Noble and Amazon. Anyone who completes the survey will be entered in the drawing. Please encourage your members to participate by including the announcement in your communications. Any questions, contact Lee Herbert at [lherbert@nspe.org](mailto:lherbert@nspe.org) or 703.684.2863.

**FE & PE Review courses at selected locations this spring.**

Visit <http://www.nspe.org/education/ed-home.asp> for more info.